central VOICE

FREE

MAY/JUNE 2009

INSIDE:
Bernhard's Bonfire
see pg 10

Lang Identifies

By Frank Pizzoli

Both musical icon and activist, K. D. Lang asks the gay community to use its experience of oppression to identify with others who are put down. When it comes to her vocal talents, she says "The listening is where I start," when describing what tethers her to a musical talent known worldwide. "I keep the two activities separate. I don't take my political views to the stage when entertaining," she says.

Lang appears May 1 at York's Strand Capital Theatre.

Also appearing in York May 1 is Sandra Bernhard, headliner at Club XS Black & White Party benefiting the region's HIV organizations. Although invited to stop by Club XS after her Strand Capital show, at press time there was no confirmation that Lang would be available. "There is a large group of women from the community planning to attend both the Lang and Bernhard shows," confirms Charles Oswald, Club XS manager and benefit producer.

Lang's love of music began early. By 1983, she formed with college friends a Patsy Cline tribute band called the Reclines and they recorded a debut album, Friday Dance Promenade. "One of those people, Ben Menke, worked as my co-producer early on.

That same year, she presented a performance art piece, a seven-hour re-enactment of the transplantation of an artificial heart for Barney Clark, a retired American dentist. Called A Truly Western Experience, the piece received strong reviews and led to national attention in Canada.

Lang's latest album, Watershed, comprises 11 new songs written and produced she's written and produced. The Deluxe Edition features four live performances and an exclusive video interview with Lang filmed in London.

The list of musical artists Lang has sung with is stunning. "I cannot even begin to describe what it was like to work with Tony Bennett," she says sounding as if she's as enthralled with those moments now as then. "Bennett created the

Continued on page 31 >

"Pass this bill!" 250+ Shout at Capital

"As I stand here I could be fired from my job in the state of Pennsylvania for being gay," said the voice from the podium inside the capital dome. Those words were spoken by Stephen A. Glassman, chairperson of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission.

Although self-employed and appointed to the commission post as an openly gay man by Gov. Ed Rendell, it is unlikely Glassman would be fired. Nonetheless his words resonated among the 250-plus citizens who gathered to shout "Pass this bill" as speakers addressed the state's lack of employment civil rights for gay people. The measure is House Bill 300 that calls for protecting people who live or work in the state from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression in employment, housing, credit and public accommodations.

There were 13 speakers who took turns at the podium addressing the 250+ attendees which included about 50 from Philadelphia and 75 from Pittsburgh and the Allegheny region. Among the speakers were Philadelphia-based activist Jake Kaskey from Value All Families Coalition; the measures prime sponsor Rep. Dan Frankel; Rep. Babette Josephs, Rep. Ron Waters, Rep. Tony Payton, Rep. Peter Daley and Rep. Cherelle Parker; Sen. Daylin Leach; openly gay Harrisburg City Councilman Dan Miller; Rev. Timothy Safford, rector of Christ Church; Diane Topakian, political programs coordinator of the Service Employees International Union Pennsylvania State Council; Andy Hoover, legislative director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania. Safford serves at a church on whose grounds seven signers of the Declaration of Independence are buried.

Continued on page 19 >

All-American Boy Tells All
see p. 29

Words From Ward
see p. 14

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black white party

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CLUB XS

MAN BEHIND THE CURTAIN PRODUCTIONS

Silent Witness Volunteers Alanna Berger and Blaise Liffick Honored

The ubiquitous Silent Witness Volunteers Alanna Berger and Blaise Liffick have been selected as one of several recipients of Millersville University's Walker Center Distinguished Civic Leadership Award. Berger and Lifflick are husband and wife.

The award will be presented on April 16, the university's Lehr Ballroom of the Bolger Conference Center in Gordinier Hall.

Berger and Lifflick, and dozens of other volunteers, have been fixtures at the region's Central PA Pride Festival and other lgbt events that may or have drawn protestors. The group uses rainbow umbrellas to shield lgbt people and their supporters from the shouts, taunts, and up-close-and-personal expressions of the protestors' free speech.

The awards recognize individuals or organizations making notable civic and community contributions of local, regional, national or international impact, and who are catalysts for civic engagement on the part of others. The award evening includes a reception and dinner in honor of the awardees followed by keynote speaker Jerry Greenfield, co-founder of Ben and Jerry's Homemade, Inc., who will speak on the topic of "An Evening of Entrepreneurial Spirit, Social Responsibility, and Radical Business Philosophy (and free ice cream)".

Alanna Berger

Blaise Liffick

The Robert and Sue Walker Center for Civic Responsibility and Leadership is part of the Civic and Community Engagement and Research Project (CCERP) at Millersville University. CCERP approaches community engagement by enlisting meaningful participation across the political spectrum to form consensuses about the identification of, if not always the solutions to, important educational, social and economic problems.

Successful Gallery Tour Ends

After an eight-location gallery tour of the immensely popular art exhibit "Coming Out: 15 Artists - 15 Years of Common Roads", regional youth organization Common Roads now brings the show to its end with a final stop at Philadelphia's William Way Community Center. The exhibit will be on display from April 30 – May 31, and the opening reception on May 1 will be a part of the city's Equality Forum.

"Not only is the exhibit outstanding art by extremely talented individuals," commented LGBT Community Center Coalition board president, Ted Martin, "but the works tell vivid stories of the struggles and the joys of coming out publicly as an LGBT person.

If it is true that a picture is worth a thousand words, then this exhibit speaks volumes. The Coalition is proud to be a partner with Common Roads and this exhibit was an added benefit of the recent merger of the two organizations."

The groundbreaking exhibit featured area lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender artists' interpretation of the theme, "Coming Out." Artists explored their feelings prior to coming out, through the coming out process, or their thoughts currently as an out artist.

The exhibit's 18-month tour began at WITF's Public Media Center in Harrisburg and followed with stops at the Art Association of Harrisburg, Millersville University, Harrisburg Community College's Lebanon and Lancaster Campuses, and most recently at YorkArts gallery.

Curated by Don Blyler III, artists included Scott Alpert, Victor Capecce, William Douglas, Mindy Deardorff, Neil R. Dreilbelbis, Andrew Guth, Sherryl Heberlig, Robert Hughes, Melody Keim, Kristin Kest, Steve Myers, Kristen Richards, Terri Lynne Smith, Sarah Stroyan, and Kate Williams. Amy Skillman, Arts & Heritage Program, Institute for Cultural Partnerships, produced the exhibit catalogue's Introduction/Essay.

Art in the exhibit will be available for sale to the public at the conclusion of the show. The exhibit's beautiful catalogue is also currently available for sale. Anyone interested in purchasing a piece of art or a catalogue should contact the LGBT Community Center Coalition of Central Pennsylvania at (717) 920-9534. Sale proceeds of the art and the catalogue benefit the youth programming of Common Roads.

Pride Organizers Announce Fundraisers and Attend Conference

The board of the Pride Festival of Central PA announces important fundraising events in support of this year's festival. Six board members last March attended the annual Northeast Regional Pride Conference (NERP).

Pride Breakfast

Sat., April 18, 9-11 a.m., MCC of the Spirit, 2973 Jefferson St, Harrisburg, PA. Please join the Pride Festival of Central PA for a delicious breakfast and learn how you or your group can become involved in this year's exciting weekend of Pride activities. Show your pride by purchasing Pride Souvenirs or Pride T-Shirts or by bidding on various works of art which will be displayed during this event. The cost of the breakfast will be a monetary donation.

Pride Dine Out

Tues., May 12, 5 -9 p.m.

Show your Pride and support the Pride Festival of Central PA Dine Out on Tuesday, May 12 from 5pm until 9pm. Participating restaurants include Liquid 891, Zephyr Express, Mangia Qui and Nonna's Delisioso. Please visit our website for details – www.harrisburgpride.org..

Pride Festival Mixer

Sat., May 30, 9 p.m.- midnight, Liquid 891, 891 Eisenhower Blvd, Harrisburg, PA.

Please join the Pride Festival of Central PA for an evening of enjoyable entertainment and refreshments and learn how you or your group can become involved in this year's exciting weekend of Pride activities. Show your pride by purchasing Pride Souvenirs or Pride T-Shirts and participate in our basket raffle. A cover will be charged.

Conference

Six board members of the Pride Festival of Central PA attended the annual Northeast Regional Pride Conference (NERP) in Philadelphia last March. "The

continued on page 7

Left to right: Mark Smith, Justin Bacon, Tammy Cassel, Diana Kuhns, Donald Anklam, Brent Weaver, and Jeff Clouser.

find more community voice on pages 7, 8, 13, 24, 25, 30, 34

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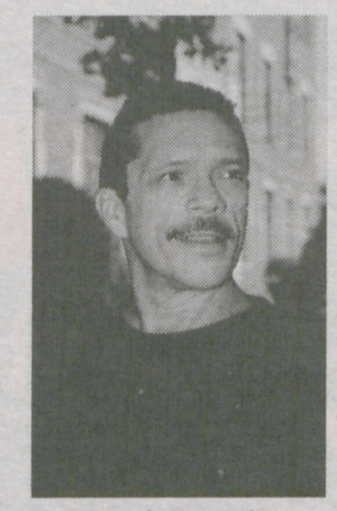
publisher's note

Values Still Matter


Frank Pizzoli

A friend's father always said "The trough never changes, only the pigs." Among its many slights of hand, the PA General Assembly in 1995 managed to legislate an automatic pay raise to their already fat compensation plan. Then-Gov. Tom Ridge signed the measure. The last raise of 2.8%, received in December 2008, brings a legislator's base pay to $78,315.

In 1995, I served on Ridge's IMPACT Commission, completing a management review of the PA Dept. of State and the Historic and Museum Commission. The non-paid commission reviewed all executive agencies and made recommendations for improvements. None of my work had anything to with a legislative pay raise.

In an effort to feel our economic pain, some, not all, legislators, are returning the money. In a hollow gesture aimed at gaining political kudos, others are contributing their raise charity. Three bills have been introduced calling for the suspension or repeal of the general assembly's automatic annual raise. Mostly symbolic, no real action on these bills has been taken.

I think former Senate candidate and activist Eric Epstein said it best to a local daily: "These guys skip dessert and want to be called a hero."

Teaching Kids

Fires are not fun. I was dismayed to read that teenagers watching the recent devastating fire in Harrisburg's Conservative Jewish synagogue Chisuk Emuna amused themselves in front of the television cameras while firefighters risked their lives. The fire destroyed the sanctuary.

There are many ways to teach children – examples, social ritual. Growing up I was taught as a sign of respect to genuflect on the sidewalk when passing a church. Nothing dramatic, just a quick but reverential gesture acknowledging something more important than ourselves. When a funeral procession passed, we were taught to stop whatever we were doing, turn towards the grieving procession of cars and lower our heads in silence.

On Memorial Day, we put on our Boy Scout uniforms and held formation as veterans passed by and gun salutes cracked the morning air. I was always grateful that World War II hadn't claimed by daddy. I could not imagine what life would be like without a father.

Although these lessons seem extreme by today's standards they did serve a purpose. They taught those of us raised during those times to respect others. They taught us to move from center stage now and then. They taught us we are not, each of us, the center of the universe every moment.

Speak for Yourself

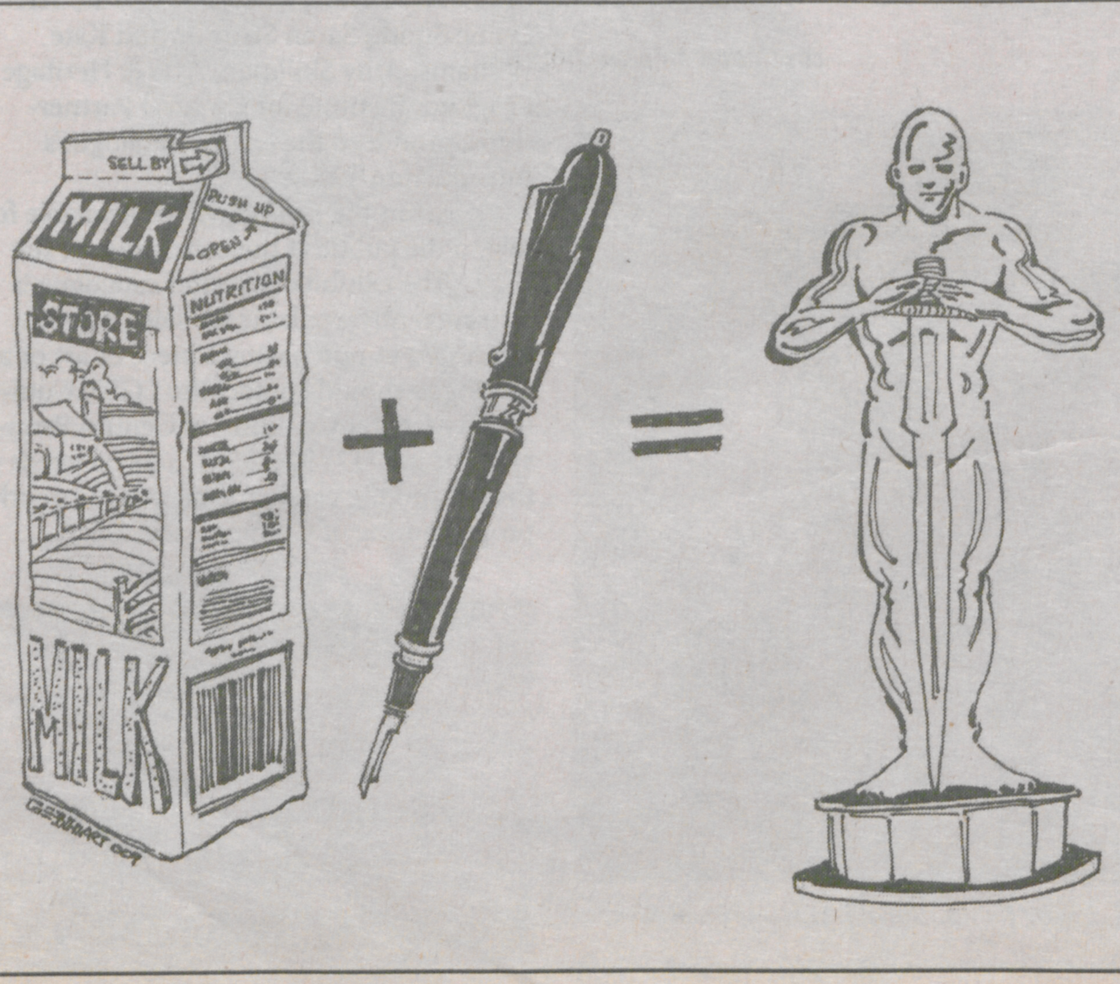
A favorite story my dad would tell me ended with the line: "Speak for yourself Miles Standish." Standish was first commander of the Plymouth Colony. Standish had sent a trusted friend to relay his warm feelings for a lady. Instead, his friend decided to court the fair lady himself. Which brings me to the lgbt community. We have (at least one) bad habit. When any one of us is upset and speaks out – and the tale is repeated endlessly and eventually erroneously on the Internet via email – the beef is preceded by "the community says". Bull snot.

If anyone of us is upset or delighted with any one of the many volunteer organizations serving our community, you have a way to address your joy or dismay. Ask for time on their agenda at the next available meeting. Yes, Virginia, you too may have an audience. Just ask. And speak for yourself.

voice box

"Blue Collar Drag? – How much more ridiculous can the defeated GOP get? When "Joe the Plumber" visit Harrisburg he admitted to never having studied, yet alone read, the "Employee Free Choice Act" but he just knew is was bad and wrong. At least he (eventually) admitted, after getting caught in a deception, that he's really not a plumber. Does his get-up qualify as Blue Collar Drag? As RuPaul said many years ago: "Honey, we all born naked and the from their on out it's all drag." How true. A Real Plumber in Better Drag

Email your thoughts to Central VOICE: posops@aol.com



Task Force at White House Health Care Summit

Rea Carey

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Rea Carey was among those participating in the White House health-care reform summit convened by President Barack Obama.

"The White House Forum on Health Reform was a powerful start to reforming health care and how our country views health generally. With Sen. Ted Kennedy in the room, people couldn't help but be inspired to focus on solutions. In the coming months, the macro themes and issues raised at the summit will work their way through to concrete policy and funding decisions that will affect the day-to-day lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. The Task Force will be working to make sure our needs, lives and families are not left behind. For example, how families are defined will be critical to ensuring full coverage of LGBT people, our partners/spouses and our children. The days when we must pay taxes on domestic partner health benefits must end.

"Other issues of great concern to LGBT people are the need for inclusive services; quality health care for those who are not employed; funding for community-based health centers with culturally sensitive services; addressing the 'preexisting conditions' barriers that far too many in our community face by having to move from job to job due to lack of employment protections or barriers faced by transgender people; and the racial and economic disparities that have plagued the existing system.

"Our community has a great deal at stake in the outcomes of this process but we also have a lot to offer in terms of solutions, creativity and engagement — after all, our community created an entire infrastructure of HIV/AIDS care when the government was unwilling to take action in ways that addressed the scale of the problem."

Are There Enough Nurses on Duty?

The Pennsylvania State Nurses Association has been working very closely with Representative William Adolph (R-165) to address the problem of inadequate nurse staffing in many of Pennsylvania's health care facilities.

Recently Representative Adolph introduced HB 1033 which encourages nurses and hospitals to work together to make sure the right number of nurses are there to provide the excellent care that every patient deserves. Adolph's legislation has 39 other co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle.

HB 1033 calls on hospitals to establish safe nurse staffing levels for each of their inpatient units. The legislation is geared towards patient safety and does not require hospitals to implement mandatory minimum ratios. Instead, each facility will tailor its staffing plan based on the unique factors of every inpatient unit, to include: patient acuity, experience of nursing staff, skill mix of the staff, available technology and the support services available to the nurses.

Adequate nurse staffing is critical to the delivery of quality patient care. Studies consistently find that safe staffing levels contribute to better patient outcomes, improved job satisfaction in the nursing community and result in a decrease in overall health care costs. An aging population, advances in technology and declining lengths of stay has steadily increased patient sickness levels in Pennsylvania's health care facilities. When staffing levels are too low, RNs are frequently forced to compromise the care they give to their patients. Unsafe nurse staffing is a dangerous practice that leads to medical errors, poorer patient outcomes, nursing injuries and burnout.

Thirteen states and Washington D.C. have enacted safe staffing legislation to date (12 do not mandate minimum ratios). The American Nurses Association has introduced federal safe staffing legislation that follows the same principles of Representative Adolph's HB 1033. PSNA commends Representative Adolph for the introduction of such comprehensive and bi-partisan safe staffing legislation.

In 2008, the American Nurses Association polled over 13,000 professional nurses nationwide in regard to safe staffing. The results reinforce numerous studies that have been conducted over the last decade in regard to this topic:

- 73% believe that staffing on their floor is not sufficient
- 60% knew a nurse that left patient care as a result of unsafe staffing
- 52% have considered leaving the profession, while 46% cite staffing as the reason
- 52% believe that the quality of nursing care on their unit has declined over the last year
- 48% would not feel confident having someone close to them receiving care in their facility

Waste Coal Plants Bad for PA Sierra Club Says

A new report shows that cleaning up waste coal piles, instead of burning them for electricity, is a better deal for the economy and local communities, says the Sierra Club. Entitled "The Economic Analysis of Alternative Programs for Managing Waste Coal in Central Appalachia" was prepared by ECONorthwest, the report looks at the economic consequences of burning waste coal in Pennsylvania.

The report compares the economic impacts of burning waste coal to other remediation methods that don't involve the further release of toxins into the air and water in the affected communities. Key among the report's findings is that the negative impacts of burning waste coal are likely to outweigh any positive effects generated from cleaning up the piles.

The report also finds that other remediation alternatives are likely to have a greater overall impact on jobs and incomes in the region than would re-mining and burning the waste coal. Waste coal, also known as "gob" or "culm," is the low-grade, residual coal left behind after coal mining operations. Piles of waste coal litter the landscape of Pennsylvania, in many cases polluting nearby streams.

In recent years, proposals to remediate waste coals piles by re-mining, burning the waste to produce electricity, and returning the fly ash to the site, have gained momentum.

In Pennsylvania there are four proposed waste coal-burning plants throughout the state, three in southwestern Pennsylvania, and one in Clearfield County. And a number of piles of waste coal exist in North Eastern Pennsylvania.

The report demonstrates that there are serious economic consequences to burning the piles as a method of remediation. The report found that the direct costs of burning coal waste piles for electricity are between $20,000 and $40,000, but the major expenses come from the spillover costs caused by the air, water, and climate pollution created by waste coal. Clean-up costs however can be less than $1,000 depending on the type of remediation, reaching $40,000 at the highest end of the spectrum.

The fact that there are fewer spillover costs associated with cleaning up the coal piles, make remediation a far better economic choice. From smog to mercury, coal-fired power plants are one of the largest sources of dangerous air pollution in the U.S. The consequences for human health are staggering. According to the report, waste coal in Pennsylvania contains up to 3.5 times the mercury as normal coal in the state. Pollution from coal-fired power plants, like the proposed plants, causes serious respiratory illnesses such as asthma, cardiovascular disease, and in some cases even premature death. The bill for these health impacts will be paid not by the polluters, but by affected families at an estimated $10,000 per ton of pollution.

The report also finds that these plants will continue to be a burden for consumers well into the future as they fail to take into account the imminent costs of carbon regulation. If built these three plants alone would emit over 8,000,000 pounds of carbon dioxide each year, which could raise electricity rates by at least 15%-17% and up to 20%-60% depending on the type of regulations and the cost assigned to carbon pollution.

Communities must also be prepared to deal with the risks associated with the disposal of the coal ash. Federal regulations, stemming from the Tennessee Valley Authority coal-ash spill could raise the costs of ash disposal by $5 billion a year, a cost that could be passed on to consumers in higher electricity bills. Coal is not cheap: There is a costly human toll.

Info on the Sierra Club's Move Beyond Coal Campaign, available at www.sierraclub.org/coal

letters to the editor

Thank you
Thanks for all that you and the other members of Central Voice do for our community!

Sincerely,
Matt S., Webmaster
Susquehanna Valley Bears
www.svbears.com

Needed
I have been to your web site, thecentralvoice.ning.com, and it looks great. It is exactly what the lgbt community in central PA needs.

Chris Kazlauskas

Pride Thank You
Another year has come and gone and the Pride Festival of Central PA is gearing up for another successful Pride Season. There are many people, organizations, and businesses that help make the Pride Festival the best event that it can be. From sponsors to donors, from volunteers to patrons, everyone in the community plays a role in the success of the Pride Festival of Central PA. Dame Glenda and Friends support Pride as they entertain us with their drag shows. Ms. Biscuit and friends just hosted a successful Green High Heel Race to help defray the cost of entertainment at Pride and Mixers will be held in just a few months. All these events are graciously hosted by the various bars and supported by their patrons. The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg and The Four Points by Sheraton have provided meeting spaces. Places of worship will host our Pride Breakfast, Equality Shabbat, Voices United Concert and Spirits United Program and four restaurants will be participating in Dine Out. For those listed above and to those who may have been accidentally missed, the Pride Festival of Central PA wants to say thank you for your continued support.
We look forward to honoring "Your Rights, Our Rights, Human Rights" and commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion.

With Pride,
Jeff Clouser, President
Pride Festival of Central PA

lesbian notions

Political IQ: The Sad Truth About Gays and the Economy

Why Stimulus Politics Matters As Much As Proposition 8

By Diane Silver

I'm not feeling particularly rich these days. Every time the Dow Jones average plunges and new unemployment figures are released, my stomach churns. I go into terror mode as I contemplate my economic future. I suspect I'm not alone. Worry over the crashing economy has got to be darn near universal.

Along with other LGBT Americans, though, I'm particularly vulnerable to economic downturns. Our problems don't come from stupidity, lack of education, or picking the wrong careers. Our problems come from state and federal laws that stack the deck against anyone who isn't heterosexual.

The range of economic liabilities facing LGBT folks is breathtaking.

Because I'm a lesbian, it's easier to keep me from getting a job or to boot me out of one, even if I'm the best worker a company ever hired.

Today only 20 states and the District of Columbia prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. Of those, only 13 prohibit discrimination based on gender identity. Many cities and counties provide protection, but most don't.

In an economy where 651,000 people lost their jobs in February, this lack of protection paints targets on the backs of millions of LGBT workers.

We can't even fall back on the old recession-fighting strategy of joining the military. We're banned from serving openly. Despite his campaign promise to end the ban, President Barack Obama has yet to make any meaningful move to do so.

And then there's the issue of marriage. As financial advisor Suze Orman noted in a Valentine's Day message on her TV show, "You will save thousands, tens of thousands of dollars, all kinds of money, if you are allowed to marry."

That's a right that same-sex couples don't have in 48 states. For us, and our children, that means the more than 1,100 legal and financial benefits that heterosexuals receive are simply out of reach.

Even in Massachusetts and Connecticut, where we can marry, the hideously named Defense of Marriage Act deprives us of, among other things, Social Security spousal benefits, health insurance, tax breaks and disability and death benefits for spouses of federal employees, veterans and public safety officers. When we do get to participate in the benefits offered to spouses at our partners' workplaces, we face taxes heterosexuals never see.

For couples like Dorene and Mary Bowe-Shulman, those taxes literally take money away from their children. Together for 14 years and married in Massachusetts, the couple's kids are Emma Jae, 10, and Olivia, 7.

Dorene is a stay-at-home mother and a two-time cancer survivor. After they married in 2004 and added Dorene to Mary's health insurance policy at work, they received a shock. Dorene's portion of the insurance was taxed as if Dorene wasn't part of Mary's family.

Under DOMA, Mary's employer must tax every benefit provided to a same-sex spouse. Today, the couple loses about $140 a month because of that tax. That's money they would have put into their daughters' college funds. Because they can't file federal taxes as a married couple, Mary and Dorene also take a financial hit. In 2006 alone, the family paid $3,332 more in taxes because of DOMA.

Mary and Dorene, by the way, are among the eight same-sex couples and three surviving spouses who just filed suit challenging DOMA in federal court.

Stereotypically, all of us gay folks are supposed to be rich. We're all supposed to have fancy apartments, fast cars and no kids. While some members of our community live the wealthy life, many of us don't.

In a December 2007 study, UCLA's Williams Institute reported that the annual earnings of men in same-sex couples in the United States were $43,117, compared to the $49,777 taken in by married heterosexual men.

The median income of same-sex couples with children was $46,200, or 23 percent lower than the $59,600 median income of married heterosexual parents.

We need to pay close attention to the ongoing efforts to stimulate the economy. Crashes hurt everyone, but they cut deeper into our community because we're already hobbled by financial handicaps. We need to push for economic plans that can work, and rail against those that make no sense.

But we also can't back off on our ongoing effort to win equality. Already our families are being left behind.

Because of DOMA, Obama's plans to stimulate the economy through mortgage breaks or tuition tax credits for families can't be extended to our households. Because Congress has yet to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act or get rid of the ban on gays serving openly in the military, LGBT workers face a greater likelihood of unemployment.

As frightening as the economy is now, it will rebound. The question is whether LGBT Americans will be part of that recovery or not.

Diane Silver is a former newspaper reporter and magazine editor, whose work has appeared in The Progressive, Salon.com, Ms, and other national publications. She can be reached care of this publication or at PoliticalIQ@qsyndicate.com

your voice

Promise Neighborhoods Challenge Education v. Incarceration

By Marlene Lang

Forty-five years ago, a young man with no training in education was given a year-long assignment to teach public school in one of Boston's worst, most overcrowded public schools. It was 1964 and the district had created a special program for schools such as this one; its then-called Negro children would get an education that was separate but equal to the education of their more fortunate peers in better, wealthier and whiter schools.

Jonathan Kozol made a stir with his own additions to the curriculum – even suggesting poetry by Langston Hughes. He was assured upon expression of his disgruntlement that things were changing, but Kozol looked around and thought "things" could not possibly change quickly enough for the children he was teaching.

"I thought that it was taking much too long and that things had been changing 100 years yet there was still slavery of the deepest kind within these rooms," he wrote, later, in "Death At An Early Age."

It happened again, in Boston, that another teacher who'd grown up in the South Bronx - and later earned a graduate degree from Harvard - was teaching poor white children. That man, Geoffrey Canada, told Newsweek that he realized how similar his upbringing was to theirs and to that of children whose poverty is tied to race. He described his experience, and that of his students, as "cut off" and "feeling like I didn't belong, not knowing how I was going to get out of the ghetto."

Canada later went to Harlem, where he began a charter school called "Promise Academy" that grew into the Harlem Children's Zone.

Canada explained how the whole-neighborhood education approach was spawned in 1989, in Harlem. He told Newsweek's Richard M. Smith recently that it "started in a building." He said families were fleeing their apartments in favor of shelters, and some alert person asked: Why?

Apparently the 24/7 drug operations in the hallways were not family-friendly. He said repairs to locks and lights only drove the dealers to a neighboring building. So, Canada and his not-for-profit do-gooders helped clean up the whole block.

The perpetrators predictably moved to another block, so it became obvious that the neighborhood's issues had to be addressed as a whole. "That led to the creation of the Harlem Children's Zone," he said.

The "Zone" made the news during the Obama campaign and again this budget session, as the President held up the Harlem Children's Zone as a model to be followed in taking on what ails education in America's cities. The president has called for the creation of 20 "Promise Neighborhoods," addressing health and social needs along with education, starting in pre-kindergarten with the intent of following students through their college years.

The Harlem program has been successful where little else has been, halting the cycle that begins, as Kozol noted, "at an early age," and tends to follow - especially African American males - through their lives. There's a one in three chance that "a black boy born in 2001 will go to prison," according to the Zone's Web site. But students in the Promise Academy are achieving, with over 97 percent of eighth-graders working at or above grade level in math. Nationwide, only 7 percent of African American eighth graders perform at grade level in math.

Yes, it is going to cost money.

No, money is not the answer to everything, especially to social ills like poverty and ignorance.

But incarceration costs money, as well. A lot of money that does not change anything for the better.

Wall Street Journal writer Alex Kotlowitz in 1991 chronicled the story of two brothers growing up in Chicago's Henry Horner Homes. The author describes the effect that shootings - and expecting death at any time - had on the youth, whose favorite summer respite was to hunt snakes on the railroad tracks. The public housing project was rife with crime while mothers wondered what chances their children had. Among siblings, Kotlowitz notes in "There Are No Children Here," one might become a teacher or a social worker, one would likely go to prison.

When Geoffrey Canada set out to open the Promise Academy in Harlem, parents came out in the rain to sign up their children for an admission lottery, since only 500 students could be accommodated.

Contrary to armchair social assessments, the desire to break the poverty cycle is most urgent among the poor. Obama proposed leaving haif the cost of Promise Neighborhoods to funding other than federal.

As a nation, we've acknowledged that money spent on education is an investment in everyone's quality of life. It's crime prevention, it's cultural enrichment, it doesn't have to be a waste.

Column reprinted with permission from the SouthtownStar, Tinley Park, Ill., part of the Sun-Times News Group, who publish Marlene Lang's column at www.southtownstar.com.

Pride Festival Releases 2008 Financial Statement

"The Pride Festival of Central PA Committee is making plans for the next several years which will mark milestones in glbt history," said Jeff Clouser, festival president, upon release today of a financial statement of activity for the 2008 event.

The benchmark events Clouser and the committee occur over the next three years.

2009 marks the 40th Anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion, the event which started the modern day gay rights movement and the tradition of Pride Festivals. 2010 marks the 5th Anniversary of the PrideFest Unity Parade and 2011 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Pride Festival in the mid-state, currently known as the Pride Festival of Central PA.

"We're excited about the plans for the 2009 festival. This year's theme is "Your Rights, Our Rights, Human Rights," Clouser says. The Stonewall Veterans will lead off the expanded PrideFest Unity Parade route and our headliner at the Mainstage is Tiffany. New to the festival this year is a Second Stage featuring Janice Robinson, a Dance Tent area, and a Family Zone area.

"As you can see from our 2008 Statement of Activity, we have been able to start this year on a positive note due to the frugal planning of the pride festival board during this difficult economic time. However, as we continue to grow the festival so does the cost and expense of providing additional programming grow," Clouser explains.

Please consider a contribution to the Pride Festival of Central PA by mailing your donation to PO Box 12083, Harrisburg, PA 17108-2083 or by visiting the website at www.harrisburgpride.org and clicking on the donation button.

If individuals or organizations are interested in volunteering at this year's event please e-mail info@harrisburgpride.org or call 717-801-1830. "Thank you for the continued support of our community," Clouser says. The financial report was prepared by the festival's fiscal sponsor The Foundation for Enhancing Communities. Information on the report is available from Ellen Kyzer, ellen@tfec.org, 717-236-5040.

Pride Festival of Central Pennsylvania Statement of Activities

January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008

Current Year Contributions:	$78,661
Less Current Year Expenses:	
Advertising	2,831
Awards	111
Direct Event Costs	15,722
Dues	373
Entertainment	6,275
Grants	2,500
Insurance	1,238
Licenses and Fees	370
Postage	213
Printing	1,532
Security	6,726
Storage	1,535
Supplies	2,759
Telephone	74
TFEC Administrative Fee	1,250
Travel	1,407
Website	890
Total Current Year Expenses:	$45,856
Net Profit (Loss)	$32,805

Dickinson College recently hosted 160 attendees at the 2nd Annual Gay-Straight Alliance Leadership Summit presented by Common Roads, a project of the LGBT Community Center Coalition. Sponsors included Planned Parenthood of Central Pennsylvania, PA State Education Association, and PA Dept. of Education. Front row from left: Rev. Eva O'Diam, Terry Heiney, Deborah Gable, Louis Marven. Back row from left Alanna Berger, Justin Bacon.

Pride Organizers con'td

conference is a division of Interpride, the worldwide body of Pride festivals," Says Jeff Clouser, , Board President of Pride Festival of Central PA.

The conference focused on training sessions on incorporating youth and families, ethnic minorities, and pro-life glbt groups in local festivals, as well as sessions on spirituality and dealing with faith communities.

There was also a special round table discussion on small to medium-size events. "With 5,000 attending annually, Pride Festival of Central PA hosts a small to medium sized Pride event," Clouser says. In contrast, Annapolis, MD Pride draws about 450 attendees while New York City, also know as Heritage Pride, hosts about a million people during their week of related events.

Donald Anklam, Festival Chair, and Mark Smith, Parade Chair, attended the roundtable discussion to discuss issues facing many Pride committees. "Some of these issues included marketing, financial sponsorship, Anklam says. "Other items reviewed included traffic and crowd control, and community relationships," Smith added.

Philadelphia Pride hosted this year's conference which included organizers from most of the Pride events in the northeastern portion of the United States (Maryland to Maine). "Pennsylvania had good representation with organizers from five out of the states eight Pride Festivals in attendance," Clouser reports. The Pennsylvania delegation included representatives from Pittsburg Pride, Philadelphia Pride, Pride Festival of Central PA, Leigh Valley Pride, and New Hope Pride. Three other state festivals, Reading, Lancaster, and Northeast PA, have not yet joined the Interpride organization.

The National Liberty Museum in the historical district was the site of Saturday evening's dinner where participants dressed in colonial attire. Conference attendees where treated to a visit from Ben Franklin and Thomas Jefferson. Members of Philadelphia Pride emphasized the cities marketing to the GLBT tourist with the slogan "Get your history straight and your night life gay."

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Food Bank volunteers

Loaves of Love Food Bank Seeks Assistance

Started in 1998, Loaves of Love Food Bank has become a lifeline for many people living with HIV/AIDS. "We average between 50 and 65 families each time we're open," says David Guthrie, a co-director and instrumental in getting the program started.

The food bank is open every other Wednesday. "Our number of volunteers varies from week to week, sometimes six or seven, last week there were 18 volunteers," Guthrie says.

"We always need cash and food donations. We usually have clothing and miscellaneous items for clients donated by various people."

The program offers non-perishable canned foods, soups, vegetables, fruits, cereals, pastas, and personal care items when available. "We also offer a variety of frozen items like fish portions, chicken nuggets, ground turkey and whatever is available from the Central Pa Food Bank," Guthrie says. The food bank has fresh produce when available. "A group of ladies bring in fresh baked goodies," Guthrie says, adding "we're community-based."

Excitement Video Embraces Gay Community

"We're a full-service and professional retail environment to the lgbt community," says Kim Faubel, manager of Excitement Video, 3910 Jonestown Road, Harrisburg. "We want the community to know they're welcome here," she explains, who also manages stores in Camp Hill and York. Faubel is a familiar face at local Karioke Nights where her reputation as a talented singer precedes her.

The adult entertainment outlet offers DVD titles, toys, and quality lotions, liquids, and playful items, in association with Adult Video News. Last month the Harrisburg location launched a successful "Alternative Night" hosted by Buffy Buffington and Aurora Fontaine. "We offered prizes, discounts, and refreshments," says Harrisburg manager Keith Sattizahn. The items were provided by Brownstone's Lounge and Stallion's Entertainment Complex.

"We're an glbt-friendly place," Sattizahn says of the well lit, clean, and personable retail outlet. Info: www.excitementvideo.com

See photos from April 16 "Alternative Night" on page 34

Rev. Charles Tigard Named MCC Interim Pastor

By Frank Pizzoli

"Hope is the core of who we are. Our hopeful resilience, despite the challenges we face, defines us as people," says Rev. Charles Tigard. He recently arrived in Harrisburg as interim pastor of Harrisburg's Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit.

Last November, Tigard completed two years of service with MCC Key West, Florida, where he created new ministry teams, expanded their social justice ministries, and increased attendance by more than 20%. In October he celebrates 10 years of MCC service with most recently serving as associate pastor in San Francisco. Tigard studied at Claremont School of Theology's Episcopal Theological School, Berkeley's Pacific School of Religion. He graduated with honors from Claremont, receiving the William and Douglas Cook Award for Religion and the Arts. "I'm a native Californian and love traveling, biking, and mornings with a good cup of coffee," he says.

"I know MCC Harrisburg is poised for growth and renewal. The members and friends have made a clear choice to invest in the future, re-energizing the church's mission of justice and equality for all God's people," Tigard says of the task before him.

"In a world where so many of us live in isolation, the church can be a place where we discover community. Our religious communities need us. They need our voices, our creativity, our passion for truth and authenticity," Tigard says of a church's role.

Tigard surmises that society and mainstream churches are fearful of gay people because "We challenge churches to live the values they preach, to be the open and welcoming communities which they claim to be," he says. Tigard thinks that gay people "push the boundaries of the accepted and familiar, and ask fellow Christians to be authentic and true to God, church" and themselves.

He feels that many inside and outside the gay community have been hurt by the church. "I often say that if a new spiritual community could be created for everyone who has been hurt by the church, there would never be enough seats for the crowd!" Tigard believes that gay people continue to be hurt by the misuse of Scripture. "I believe that because the Bible is holy, it should never been used as a weapon against any group of people. The Bible contains many beautiful stories about God's diverse world, including sexual diversity. As a gay minister, Tigard is interested in reclaiming the Bible as a sacred text which, he says, speaks healing, love, light, and joy over God's lgbt people."

Rev. Charles Tigard

The challenge for the gay community, Tigard says, is to look at faith with new eyes. "We need to create spiritual communities of healing, where we are called to a mature faith. For many of us that means taking up the hard work of letting go of old hurts and embracing again the core message of Jesus."

On forging relationships with other religious communities, Tigard says "Relationship building with other communities has always been a core part of the MCC mission. We are an ecumenical community by nature. Traditionally, MCC members and friends come from varieties of religious traditions and backgrounds, including no prior religious affiliation. "The worship life and culture at MCC reflects this diversity," Tigard points out. "It is vital that we engage in ecumenical work because as lgbt people of faith we have important contributions to make to the larger religious dialogue," he says. Tigard says that when people interact with us, old stereotypes and judgments begin to dissolve. Info: mccofthespirit.org.

Lancaster Pride Festival Returns June 20

Lancaster PA Pride, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, will host its second Pride Festival for the city of Lancaster Sat., June 20 at Buchanan Park from noon until 6 p.m.

"In keeping with last year's festival, attendees will be treated to a variety of family and kid friendly live entertainment, arts, crafts, food vendors, and Pride regalia," says representative Anthony Lascoskie, Jr. The event celebrates the lives of the lgbt community and its allies.

The event's Steering Committee is Ron Blaize, Kim Eisenhaur, Nancy Gockley, Mark Stoner, Chris Baldwin, Anthony Lascoskie, Jr., James Sawor, Lauren Bitner, and Sue Meister. All donations to Lancaster PA Pride are tax deductible under the Internal Revenue Service Section 501(c)(3) regarding non-profit organizations and tax exempt number 421642039. Admission is $5. Information and updates are available at www.LancasterPaPride.com.

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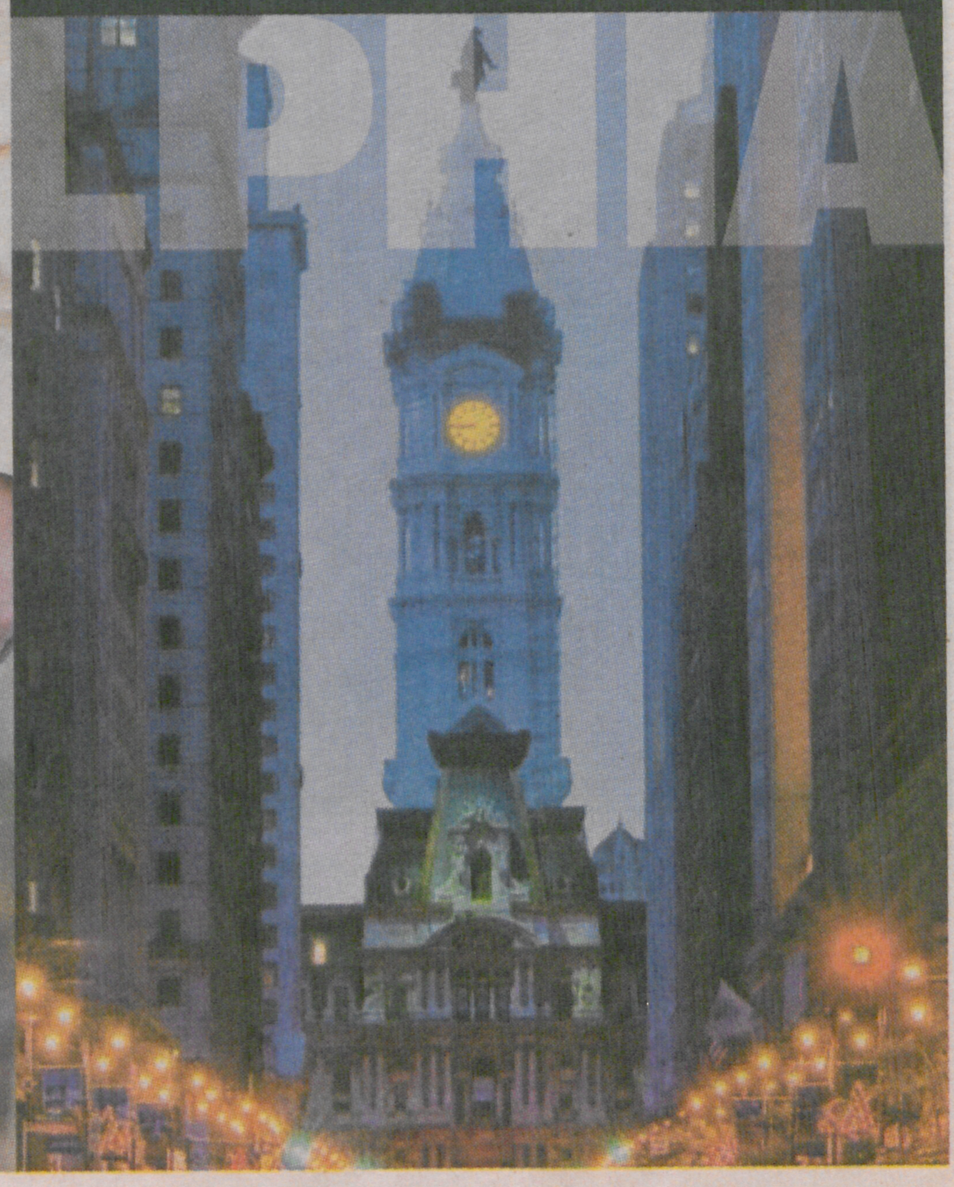

Bernhard To Rock Black & White

By Frank Pizzoli

“My show is always fun and personalized to each audience,” boasts Sandra Bernhard, appearing May 1 as the headliner at the 3rd Annual Black & White Party, a benefit for York First Family and The AIDS Fund of South Central PA.

The New York Times called Bernhard “a living breathing bonfire,” who has been challenging fans and critics with her knife-edged humor, satire and emotive performances for the past 25 years. She is known for breaking down perceived boundaries between entertainment, social commentary, and performance art. She defies neat categorization. An accomplished comedienne, actress, singer, and writer, Bernhard is a whirlwind performance artist. “I like to shine a light on current events, politics, sexuality, by using rock and roll and cabaret influences,” she says.

“For the Club XS show I will improvise and personalize,” she says. Bernhard’s live performances, which are part comedy, part social satire, and part cabaret, showcase her astonishing range of talents. Bernhard does about 100 shows a year. “That’s a nice number of shows. It allows me to be with my daughter, I want to be there for her.” Bernhard fills in with TV and film projects as time permits

Reflecting on the current political scene, Bernhard says “I fully back Obama. We all have to take responsibility for ourselves. It took us about 15 years to get into the current situation. It will take time to get out of this mess. It’s like pulling a car out of quicksand. If you pull to fast it will sink,” she observes. “We need to be patient AND change the way we live. Live with less.” Bernhard, in her typical ironic style, says she has always aspired to live below her means. “I grew up around wealth and saw what it did to people. We all need to live more simply.”

Bernhard thinks the gay community “dropped the ball on Prop. 8.” “We should have been in their early and fought harder. We slipped.” Regarding civil rights versus marriage, she sees the gay community’s search for full rights as common sense. “We all need to respect one another again or for the first time. Civil rights is common sense. These are human issues not issues of sexuality.”

Her recent show Everything Bad and Beautiful galvanized audiences in the US and Great Britain. Her critically acclaimed Broadway hits, “I’m Still Here… Damn It!” toured nationally and was filmed for an HBO special, which has achieved legendary cult status.

Her current national tour celebrates the 10th anniversary of her classic hit show.” Without You I’m Nothing.” The show toured the world and lead to a Grammy nominated album and feature film of the same name. Since she first appeared in 1983 in Martin Scorseses’, “The King of Comedy”, Bernhard’s numerous films include “Inside Monkey Zelterland,” “Hudson Hawk” and more recently, “Dinner Rush”.

Her television appearances include a regular role on Roseanne from 1991-1996, and guest starring roles on “Ally McBeal”, “Chicago Hope”, and “Will & Grace”. She has appeared on “Late Night with David Letterman”, as well as “The Tonight Show”, “Rosie O’Donnell”, “The View” and “Chelsea Lately”. She hosted the season premier of “MadTV” and in 2001 hosted her own talk show, “The Sandra Bernhard Experience” for A&E television.

Her publications include Confessions of a Pretty Lady, Love, Love, and Love, and May I Kiss You on the Lips, Miss Sandra? Her essays have also been published in numerous magazines, including The New Yorker.

*See Sandra Bernhard on RuPaul Show & “Black & White Party Video” @ **thecentralvoice.ning.com***

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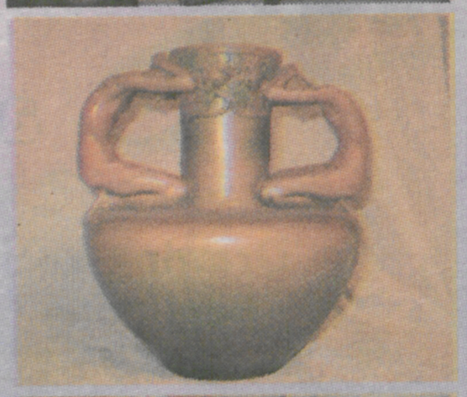

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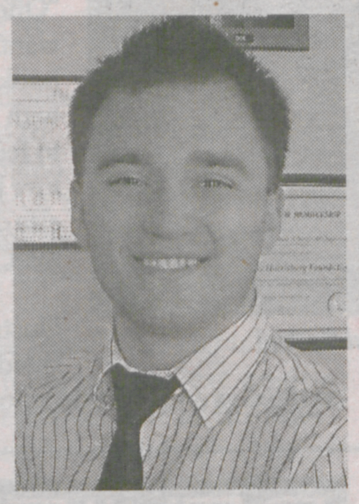
LGBT community center

LGBT Community Center Coalition Update



By Louis Marven,
Director of Administration
& Youth Services

The past couple of months have been a busy time at the Center. We were pleased to host our 2nd Annual Gay-Straight Alliance Leadership Summit at Dickinson College, to play Bingo for weeks of fun at Club XS in York, and to join with a number of other lgbt and allied organizations in the State Capitol Rotunda in support of House Bill 300.

The Center also co-sponsored a performance by Jason Ricci April 28 at the Maennerchor, 221 North Street Harrisburg. Ricci grew up as a gay punk-rocker in rural Maine and has developed musically into an electrifying new voice in the Blues scene. His show is part of a series of Blues performances on Tuesdays brought to the Maennerchor in partnership with the Blues Society of Central PA. Learn more about Jason Ricci at his website, www.jasonricci.com, and about the Maennerchor at their website, www.themaennerchor.com.

The community seems to be filled to the brim with young musical talent, as a regional Youth Chorus made up of members of local High School Gay-Straight Alliances has begun rehearsing weekly under the direction of David Walker, Artistic Director for the Harrisburg Men's Chorus. Walker hosted a workshop at our GSA Summit and shared with the youth the work of the Men's Chorus and how singing together is a way to support one another, be visible, and give voice to the experiences of being lgbt.

The youth participating in the Chorus come from all over Central PA and are truly an inspiring example of one of the values of our GSA Summit: the chance for lgbt and allied youth to network with one another and professionals to help make Central Pennsylvania a better place for lgbt people.

The youth of Common Roads have also been active lately at their Friday Night Safe Spaces. Of special mention is Common Roads intern Beth Smolinsky who has provided our Lancaster chapter with energy and leadership, and has worked with the group since the fall. A Master's in Social Work student at Millersville University, Beth has worked with a group of dedicated volunteers to provide a safe space for Lancaster lgbt youth through dynamic programming ranging from discussions on HIV/AIDS, gender identity, and coming out; getting out into the community by participating in First Friday and the lively arts scene of Lancaster city; and spending time with peers playing games, watching movies, and drinking coffee. Both the Harrisburg and Lancaster groups continue to meet weekly on Friday evenings from 7:00-9:30.

Finally, a quick glance at our Community Calendar shows the bustle of activity the community is offering as we head into summertime. Pride Festival of Central PA and the Central PA Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce are hosting several mixers for the community, the Central PA Womyn's Chorus and Harrisburg Men's Chorus have exciting performances scheduled, and TransCentral PA continues offering social events and support for members. See our full calendar at www.centralpalgbtcenter.org. Remember to check back frequently for updates and submit events from your own groups.

The LGBT Community Center Coalition of Central Pennsylvania is a volunteer-led effort to create a regionally representative community center that is both a location and a unifying point for Central Pennsylvania's large, diverse and multi-county LGBT population. Our mission is to create common ground for the lgbt community and allies in Central Pennsylvania by providing services through spiritual, educational and cultural activities that foster wholeness.

community voice

Watch for "My Big Fat Uncut Bingo"

If necessity is the mother of invention, then re-invention must be a gay thing. Sorry Madonna, you're imitating homos not creating them. Club XS is reinventing it's popular Bingo into something new. Watch for an unveiling of "My Big Fat Uncut Gay Bingo" soon.

"We'll move to a monthly Bingo event with a published schedule," says organizer Greg King, owner of Gettysburg's Garretson's Tile Co. The proceeds will continue to benefit the LGBT Community Center Coalition and youth organization Common Roads. Both organizations recently merged efforts. "This will be a fun affair - drag queens on roller skates and who knows what! We've engaged Man Behind the Curtain Productions to help us bring Bingo to a new level of entertainment and camp." King says. Stay tuned.

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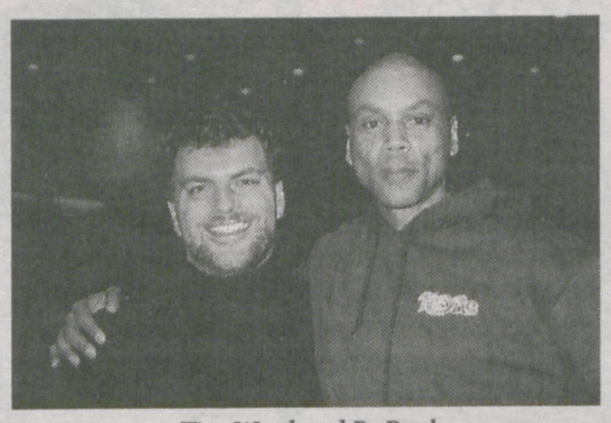
Tim Ward Publishes Poetry Book

"Poetry is just the evidence of life," said one admirer of the art form.

Tim Ward, a York County registered nurse, put the evidence of his life into poetry when he recently published 'Last words, A Portrait of Gay Lust, Love & Loss".

The 55-page book is based on "my relationship with my former partner, Michael, who passed away earlier this year from an AIDS-related illness," Ward says. His goal is to raise money for AIDS services and research. "Many of the poems within my collection touch upon the challenge of being HIV and the challenges of maintaining a successful relationship when one person is HIV positive. Ward is HIV-negative. Some of the word choices and expressions in many of the poems actually promote awareness and education around HIV.



Tim Ward and RuPaul

In particular, Ward's poem called 741 E. Philadelphia St. is about his falling in love with Michael and finding romance. "One of the ideas I wanted to prove in my book is that people with HIV are entitled to feel and experience love just like anyone else despite their illness," Ward explains.

Another poem illustrates what motivated Ward to become certified as an HIV Education Counselor. "You know, HIV is a very weak virus and if the virus were dropped on a table, the virus would be dead within 10 seconds. The virus is a very weak agent unless it gets into your immune system," Wards says. "HIV is difficult to spread and can only be transmitted in very certain, very careless, very specific practices. I wanted to share that because Michael and I were able to be very intimate with each other and in a very loving, sexual manner. The intimacy in our relationship was very healthy and very satisfying," Ward shares.

Copies ($11) are available by emailing Ward at ulearn2seekup@aol.com.

arts & entertainment

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HERSHEY THEATRE

Hershey Theatre Apollo Awards
May 18, 7 p.m.
Created in 2008, the Hershey Theatre Apollo Awards will be presented for the first time on May 18, and then given annually for outstanding achievement by local high school students in their musical and play productions. Modeled after The Tony Awards on Broadway and following the example of the Paper Mill Playhouse "Rising Star Awards" in Millburn, NJ, the ceremony will be held at the Hershey Theatre, being produced and presented by the Theatre Education Department. 717-534-3405 or online at hersheytheatre.com and livenation.com.

STRAND CAPITOL

Louis C.K.

May 16, 8 p.m.
With more than twenty years as a stand-up, Louis C.K. is one of the most honest and respected comedic voices of his generation.

Diana Krall
June 6, 7:30 p.m.
This Grammy-winning jazz singer brings her cool, breathy vocal style and sensitive piano-playing to central PA for a rare performance!
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LANCASTER SYMPHONY

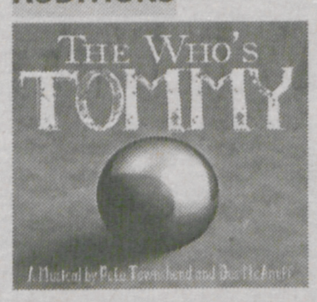
Santiago Rodríguez

May 22-24 Lancaster Symphony Orchestra closes its Classic Concert Series by showcasing a masterwork, a piece that showcases the orchestra's talents and the globally acclaimed piano soloist Santiago Rodríguez, with "Rachmaninoff & 1001 Arabian Nights".
Tickets $25-$62; (717) 397-7425 or www.thefulton.org.

WHITAKER CENTER

May 14 & 16
Sunoco Performance Theater, 7:30 p.m.
Arias selected from Madama Butterfly, La Boheme, Tosca & Turandot. This performance is an ideal setting for opera newcomers, and will allow the audience to experience several of Puccini's great works in a single live concert.

YORK LITTLE THEATRE AUDITIONS



Tommy Auditions, May 11 or 12; appointments recommended but not required. Call 717-854-3894 or www.ylt.org for details.
Tommy runs July 17 – 26, a rock musical by The Who's Pete Townshend's.

The Metamorphoses, June 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, July 2, 3, 4 at 8 p.m.; June 21, 28 and July 5 at 3 p.m.
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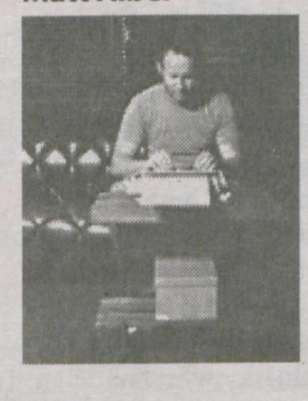
Matt Alber



"I got up early to score a ticket to Humpday to find 200 people already in line. Decided to pitch my movie to a stranger and got a thumbs up!" That's what fans are saying about the voice of Matt Alber.

Keri Hilson

She's about to be big! Hilson's "Turnin Me On" feat with Lil Wayne is now available now via Itunes and Amazon. The R&B sensation is sweeping the music world.

Chris Cornell
Best known as the acclaimed lead singer and songwriter for Soundgarden and Audioslave, Cornell and producer Timbaland have created a 13-track, inventive new work which looks to spearhead a brave new world of cross-genre collaboration.

The Cliks

Toronto's breakout musical sensation The Cliks have had a whirlwind past two years since the release of their critically acclaimed debut, Snakehouse and there's no sign that they'll be slowing down anytime soon. Boasting music as textured and layered as the deeply varied emotional terrain it treads, it's no surprise that the band has dredged the emotional mire of the hectic past two years to create this album. Feeling bad never sounded quite so good.

Utada
In the small world of pop artists who write their own music enters the big voice of artist/songwriter Utada who reveals her new single "Come Back to Me". Utada also releases her new album "This is the One".

Black Eyed Peas

After a four-year break between studio albums, three-time Grammy Award-winning, multi-platinum Interscope recording group The Black Eyed Peas are back with The E.N.D.. The Black Eyed Peas' fifth studio album is set to arrive June 9. "Boom Boom Pow," the first new single from the album, will be serviced to Top 40 and Rhythm Crossover radio and clubs.

La Roux
Brace yourself North America, and get ready to be blown away by one of UK's biggest musical sensations, La Roux. At just 21-years-old, Brixton (South London)'s Elly Jackson and partner-in-synth-pop-crime Ben Langmaid were voted #5 in the BBC's "Sound of 2009" list and have already won over music fans across the UK. They make their North American debut this spring.

LaKisha Jones
"I just want to sing." That heartfelt declaration pinpoints the core essence of LaKisha Jones. Best known to millions of TV viewers as a top four finalist during the 2007 season of "American Idol," the singer is ready to reclaim center stage—this time with her first solo album. "So Glad I'm Me" on Elite Music, LLC debuts May 19.

my world of music

DJ Barry B

BY STALLION'S DJ BARRY B

Spotlight on Artist Lady Gaga - Lady Gaga has hit the world by storm. In the dance clubs and on the radio she has scored big with the hit single "Just Dance". The current single "Poker Face" is having just as much success.

But just who is Lady Gaga? The multi-talented singer and song writer grew up in New York. As a young Italian girl she learned to play piano by ear at age 4, By age 13, she had written her first piano ballad. At age 17, she became one of 20 kids in the world to get early admission to Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. By the age of 20 she was writing hit songs for other groups like the Pussycat Dolls. Being a big fan of the rock band Queen, Lady Gaga nicked her name from Queen's song "Radio Gaga".

Now at age 22, she releases her own debut CD called "The Fame". The CD is full of heavy beat driven songs and Lady Gaga's powerful voice. Watch out for the next single "Love Game". Lady Gaga is currently on tour all through the United States with an over seas tour starting in late May.

Lady Gaga

In Tune with the Current Hits - The single "Love Sex Magic" by Ciara and Justin Timberlake is burning up the charts. The single appears on Ciara's new CD "Fantasy Ride", due out early May. Ciara teamed up with multi-talented Justin Timberlake to score a mega hit single. You know who Justin is, but now Ciara should get a little more noticed. Ciara has been putting out some really good songs over the past few years.

Black Eyed Peas return with a new cd called "The E.N.D. (Energy Never Dies)". The first single already out "Boom Boom Pow", is soaring up the charts. Lead singer Furgie enjoyed her solo success, but now rejoins the group that made her famous. Look for more hit songs to follow.

Music in Brief - The diva Rupaul is back with a dance club song called "Cover Girl". There isn't much I can really say good about this one. I think she should stick to her crap show Rupaul's Drag Race. Kelly Clarkson hits big with her new CD "All I Ever Wanted" and first single "My Life Would Sick Without You". This is a must for any Kelly Fan. This CD is full of really good songs and should have a long run of hit singles. We don't want to leave Beyonce out of all this music news. The beautiful and talented Beyonce just releases hit after hit. The current single "Diva" is climbing the charts with the single "Halo" right behind it. The current CD "Circus" by Britney Spears is turning into a greatest hits CD. Britney is on a roll with no end in sight. The current single" If U Seek Amy" isn't too bad. Not being a Britney fan myself, I even like this song.

Well that is all the time we have for now. I'll be back in the next issue to give you the scoop on my world of music.

The Black & White Party Board of Directors planned the 3rd annual event called "the best party you'll ever attend" at Club XS. From front row left: Club XS manager and event producer Charles Oswald, John Folby, after whom the event's service award is named. From left back row: the ever creative Greg King, Garretson's Tile and responsible for many of the evening's special effects, Jamie Filippelli, Central Voice publisher and editor Frank Pizzoli, York Discovery's Mary Beth Hare, and David Leas, representing The AIDS fund of South Central PA. Not present: Karen McCraw, Family First Health, and Tim Wood, and On-stage Show Director of local talent Chris Quigley.

Back to Life, Back to Reality with VH1's Glenn Douglas Packard

BY MIKEY KNIPP
EXCLUSIVE TO
CENTRAL VOICE

Choreographer Glenn Douglas Packard got what he's always wanted – to become a star – as Brooke Hogan's best friend on the first season of VH1's hit show Brooke Knows Best. But as the novelty of newfound fame wears thin, the self-proclaimed "sarcastic, adventurous, happy, gay best friend" must face reality – both on and off screen.

Brooke Knows Best cast.

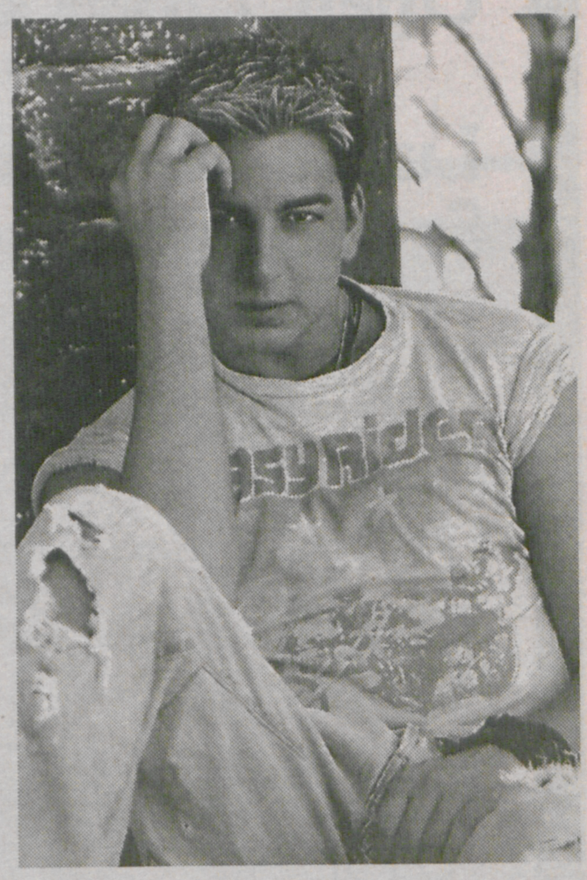
Packard, 30, who revealed his homosexuality when BKB premiered last year, will return to his roots in season two to confront his past and the people he loves. "We actually go to my hometown in Clare, Michigan, and tackle what life is like after I have come out to the world, and how my family and small town are dealing with all of it. It's a milestone in my life – that moment when I had all my worlds come together: my family, my personal life and my work," he says.

Prohibited from leaking too many details of season two, Packard is able to reveal the title of that particular episode – "Welcome to Michiglenn" – in which reality TV and real life collide. "You see where I came from and my family life – because what a lot of people don't realize is that I had this whole other life where I was engaged to a woman and was ready to take over my family's farm business."

A departure from his days milking cows, the former farmhand also spends time in season two training for the space program. "There is an episode where we go to Cape Canaveral, and I started a little thing where I would be the next gay guy to get into space. I would definitely give Lance Bass a run for his money," Packard quips, referring to the former *NSYNC singer's famously failed bid to exit our atmosphere.

Of course, there's more to BKB: Season 2 than facing one's past and starry-eyed space odysseys. There's also a focus on the future and what it holds for Glenn, Brooke and roommate Ashley, both personally and professionally.

In addition to choreographing Brooke's new tour and music video, Packard is developing a comic book with Ashley, called "Teams of Heroes," and he's actively pitching two new reality concepts to studio executives. Perhaps the most exciting news of all, however, is that Packard has found love. A love that he promises will blossom throughout BKB's sophomore run.



Glenn Douglas Packard

"I had just gotten out of a nasty relationship, and I was ready to give up finding my dream man, my soul mate," recalls Packard. "Then in walks Daniel Miagany – just moved to Miami! So you'll get to see all that evolve into a strong, mature gay relationship."

As for the person who put Packard on the map – Brooke Hogan – well, he still knows his role with her. After all, the show is called Brooke Knows Best. Season 2 of Brooke Knows Best premieres this May on VH1.

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Salon Oxygen Creates Hair and Makeup for Black & White Benefit

By Frank Pizzoli

For two days preceding the now infamous Black & White Party, May 1 at Club XS, passersby at York's Salon Oxygen may wonder if the circus is in town.

"We'll create hair and makeup for about 40 people leading up to the benefit," says owner Harrison Hackworth, a Tennessee transplant with a sexy remaining hint of his accent. Their work will reflect the turn-of-the-century carnival theme created by Chris Quigley, on-stage show director of all the local talent. All 40 entertainers are volunteers who will costume themselves and have Hackworth, salon coordinator Jamie Filippelli and the entire staff create the finishing touches with hair stylings and makeup.

"We love the work, we love the fun," Filippelli says. The 40 players will work outside the club strolling a two-tent area with a stage, art auction, live auction, and food vendors. Drag performers and characters in Quigley's staged show numbers will hold court both inside and outside the elaborately decorated club grounds. Sanda Bernhard goes on stage at midnight.

The whole affair matches the quirky history of Hackworth's business. He took it over 2007 on Halloween. Original owner Craig Schaszberger opened the place on April 1, 1985. "We're a staff of seven, six gay guys. They just showed up. We didn't plan it," Hackworth says laughing.

Both Hackworth and Filippelli spoke candidly about their business philosophy which reflects their desire to give back. "Each of us has come to terms with our demons. Harrison and I wanted to shift from 'taking' mode to 'giving back' to the community," explains Filippelli.

A serene ambience rests within the shop. "We don't hide who we are; we don't push who we are. We're comfortable inside," says Hackworth. In rushes a female customer. She starts right in on her latest travails and accomplishments. A loving huddle forms and they're off into a three-way friend fest. Their familiarity apparent, she opens up immediately.

"We're an oasis in an economic storm," Filippelli stresses. He gently advises clients to turn cell phones off or to vibrate. "We all need to slow down," he says quietly. The two days preceding the benefit, Salon Oxygen will be anything but slow.

Jamie Filippelli and Harrison Hackworth.

Sharing Our Caring Dinner Seeks Sponsors

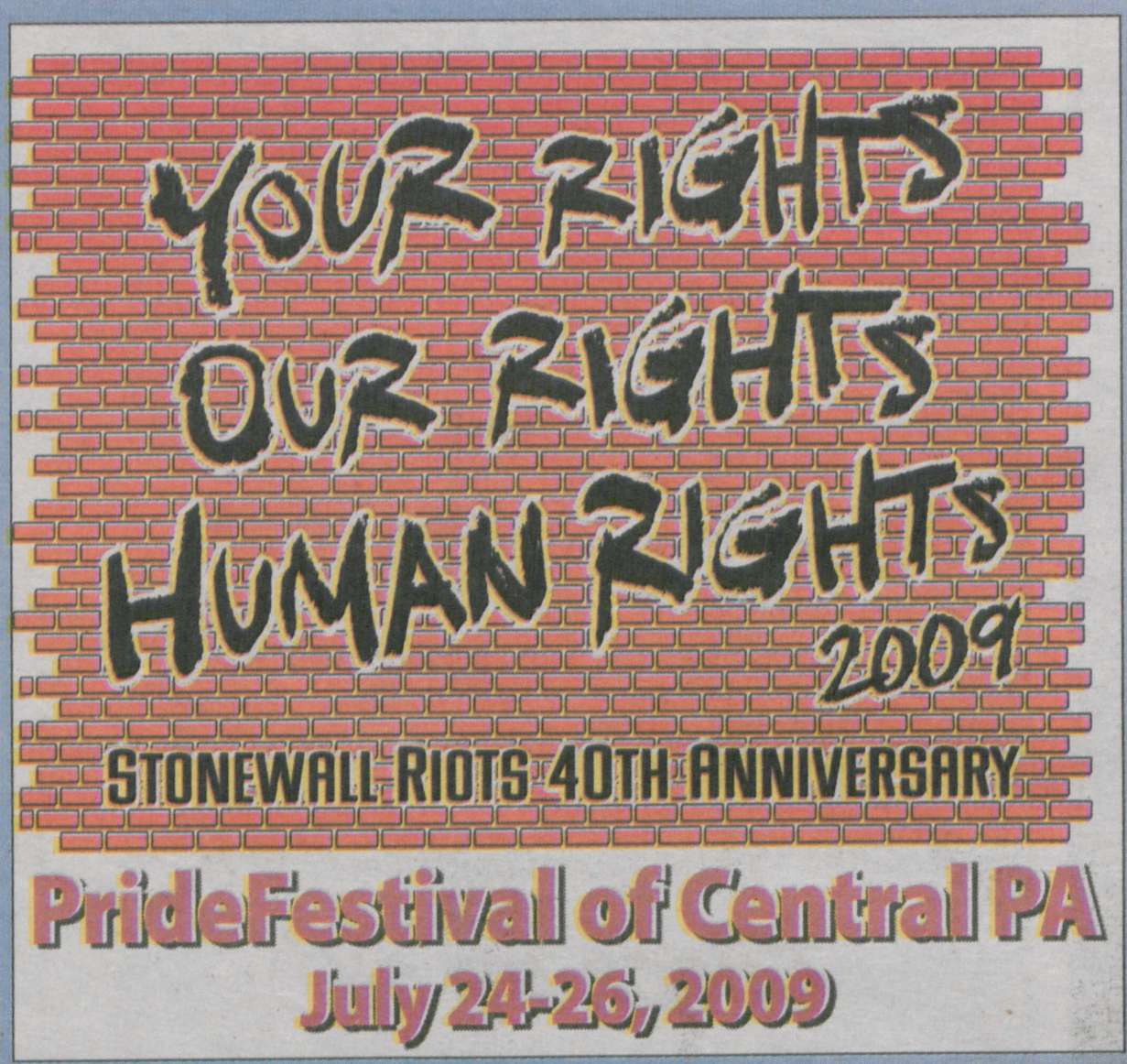
Sharing Our Caring, a monthly dinner for people living with HIV/AIDS, their friends, family, and children, seeks sponsors. The dinners are prepared the day of the serving at Harrisburg's Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit under the guidance of the congregation's Social Justice Committee. Sponsors have included other church organizations, pharmaceutical companies, and volunteer groups. If you or your group is interested, please contact MCC (717)-236-7387.

York events

Patton In Valhalla--one-man show
The York Emporium used book & curiosity shop is pleased to present "Patton in Valhalla", an evening with World War II general George S. Patton. **5/1/2009, 7-9 p.m.**

Live Poets Society
Local author and poet Lynn Fetterolf leads this monthly group for aspiring poets to share readings of their work. Borders, York, **5/4/09, 7:30 p.m.**

Science Fiction Discussion Group
The Science Fiction discussion group meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month at The York Emporium used book & curiosity shop in downtown York. Free & open to the public. **5/17/09, 1:30-3:30 p.m.**



- **FAMILY ZONE AT THE PRIDE FESTIVAL OF CENTRAL PA -** Families attending the fesitval will enjoy family-friendly activities in an area dedicated to the young and young-at-heart.
- **EXPANDED ENTERTAINMENT AT THE PRIDE FESTIVAL OF CENTRAL PA -** *New this year, Dance Tent sponsored by Club XS and Second Stage.*

Upcoming Events

- **PRIDE DINE OUT - Tuesday, May 12, 5-9 pm.** Participating restaurants include Liquid 891, Zephyr Express, Mangia Qui and Nonna's Delisioso.
- **PRIDE FESTIVAL MIXER - Saturday, May 30, 9 pm-12 mid. at Liquid 891, 891 Eisenhower Blvd., Harrisburg.** Featuring Natalie Darkes, Glenda's Cabaret and Basket Raffle. Cover Charge.
- **PRIDE'S GOT TALENT - PRIDE FESTIVAL MIXER II - Friday, June 26, 9 pm-12 mid.** at Brownstone Lounge, 412 Forster St., Harrisburg. Cover Charge. $15 Registration Fee required for Open Mic Competition which includes a Pride T-Shirt.
- **PRIDE SHABBAT - A Celebration of "Your Rights, Our Rights, Human Rights" - Friday, July 17, 7:15-8:30 pm** at Temple Beth Shalom, 913 Allendale Rd., Mechanicsburg. More info at www.tbshalom.org
- **2009 PRIDE FESTIVAL OF CENTRAL PA**
  Friday, July 24-Sunday, July 26
  Friday Night - Voices United Concert
  Saturday - PrideFest Unity Parade and PrideFest
  Sunday - Spirits United Service and STONEWALL Veterans Symposium

The Pride Festival of Central PA partners with and showcases organizations in the community, provides a safe environment for people to celebrate their diversity, and supports local economic growth by attracting individuals to Central PA. Please visit our Web site for up to the minute details concerning the location, hours and admission prices of all these events.

PRIDE FESTIVAL OF CENTRAL PA

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Pride Festival of Central PA is a project of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities

Pass this bill!

Continued from page one

With a record number of PA House co-sponsors Frankel reintroduced the anti-discrimination legislation with 78 bipartisan co-sponsors in the House of Representatives, nine more it had than when first introduced in the 2007-08 session. The co-sponsors include all members of the House majority leadership.

"The growing support for this commonsense bill reflects that most Pennsylvanians already know being gay or transgender has nothing to do with a person's ability to fix a car or computer, or to show up on time and to do a good day's work," Frankel said.

A November 2007 poll done by a firm that has many Republican clients found 71 percent of Pennsylvania voters supported the bill. The bill drew majority support in every region of the state and from Republicans and self-described conservatives.

Pennsylvania's Human Relations Act already bans discrimination based on race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age, sex, national origin, a non-job related handicap or disability or the use of a guide or support animal due to a person being blind, deaf or having a physical handicap.

The bill is expected to be referred to the House State Government Committee, whose chairwoman, Josephs, strongly supports the bill and held hearings around the state on it in the 2007-08 session. A rally has been scheduled for March 17 at the state Capitol to promote the legislation.

Frankel said the bill would benefit all Pennsylvanians.

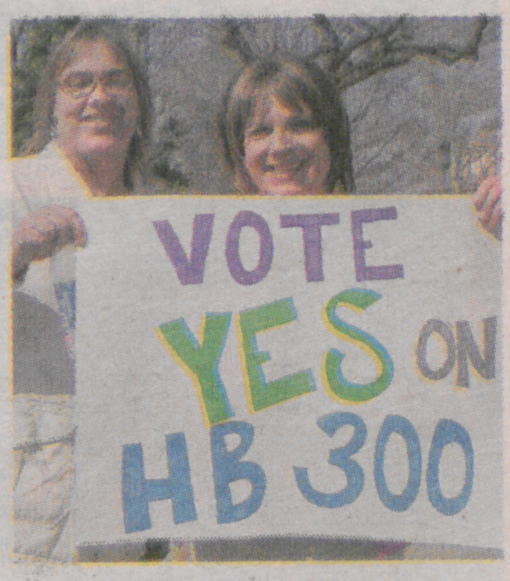
"This is the right thing to do, and for our economy, it would also be the smart thing to do. We are surrounded on three sides by states that ban anti-gay discrimination – Maryland, New Jersey and New York. They are among 20 states that have this competitive advantage over Pennsylvania when it comes to attracting and retaining businesses and residents," Frankel said.

"While approximately 10 percent of the population is directly affected, a larger number of prospective residents and employers – straight and gay alike – value diversity and laws that reflect fairness. When they decide where to live and where to retain or create jobs, these factors matter. Oklahoma apparently lost out on 1,000 jobs last year because a state lawmaker's anti-gay diatribe called attention to that state's laws and relative lack of fairness on this issue.

"It's important to note that this legislation would also protect heterosexual Pennsylvanians from being fired based on their sexual orientation or their gender identity or expression. This legislation would protect everyone."

Nearly 80 percent of Pennsylvania's 12.5 million residents live or work in communities that do not provide these protections, according to the Value All Families Coalition.

Thirteen Pennsylvania municipalities have enacted civil rights laws including protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity or expression. These municipalities are Allentown, Easton, Erie County, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lansdowne, New Hope, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton, Swarthmore, West Chester and York. State College also has an ordinance that covers only sexual orientation discrimination in housing and employment.



71% of PA Voters Support Gay Civil Rights

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Tiffany Headlines Pride; Charles Lee and Janice Robinson on Stage

At the ever-popular St. Patrick's Day Green High Heel Race, Pride Festival of Central PA announced that gay rights supporter and singer Tiffany is headliner July 24 for the July 24-26 event. In 1987, Tiffany set the record for youngest female recording artist to top the billboard charts with the debut of her self-titled album which included the song "I Think We're Alone Now". Other songs include "Could Have Been" and "I Saw Him Standing There".

Tiffany is also know for her albums, "Dreams Never Die", "The Color of Silence", "Just Me", and "Dust off and Dance." In recent years, Tiffany has been performing at gay pride events. Although she is heterosexual, Tiffany is a strong supporter of gay rights.

Other performers at this year's festival include Charles Lee, an accomplished vocalist whose repertoire includes Broadway tunes, urban blues, classic love songs, rhythm and blues. Lee has performed on stage with several nationally and internationally known recording artists, including Jeff Kimpland (formerly with Journey), The Temptations, and Charlie Thomas, formerly of The Drifters. With a vocal range that can only be described as phenomenal, Lee appeals to a diverse audience of ages, cultures and genders.

Another featured performer is Janice Robinson who gained worldwide success in the early-mid 1990s with the Eurodance/Hi-NRG/Italo House group Livin' Joy as the lead singer before going solo in 1999. Her solo debut album, "The Color Within Me" was an earthy, more singer/songwriter pop/rock type album released in 1999 and scored a pop hit with the single "Nothing I Would Change". On February 10, 2000

Tiffany

Robinson appeared on an episode of the hit show, Charmed. In 2005, she toured America as an opening act for Tina Turner's U.S. leg of her world tour.

The organizing committee also returned the practice of a community breakfast april 18 at MCC, Harrisburg. Board and committee members were on hand to provide information and answer questions about the event.

Applications for both vendor/exhibitor booths at the festival and parade participation are available at www.harrisburgpride.org.

Lancaster events

Hole in the Wall Puppet Theatre
126 North Water Street
May 15-June 27, Fri & Sat: 10am:
Rumplestilltskin
Marionette version of the favorite fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm.

Heritage Center Museum
5 W. King St.
Through Dec 31: the Amish of Lancaster County and Print Shop
The museum is revamping its popular exhibition, the Amish of Lancaster County, to include more attention to the boom in Amish cottage industries and an emphasis on the fundamental tenets of Amish culture. Also back for the third year is the working 1920s Print Shop on the third floor of the museum.

Demuth Museum
Conestoga House
1608 Marietta Ave.
June 13 & 14, 10-5: 26th Annual Demuth Garden Tour
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PFLAG Lancaster meets at Grace UCC on the 2nd Wednesday each month at 7pm.

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- JULY 18, 7 PM - "Figure Study" Group Show 7 & Robert Hughes
- AUG. 15, 7 PM - Rebecca Lesny & Lisa Marie Cline

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- JUNE 5, 6 PM - David Bottini & "Special Friends" Pet Art Group Show
- JULY 3, 6 PM - "Patriotic Art" Group Show & Lawrence Von Knorr
- AUG. 7, 6 PM - Brownyn Jean Hughes & Eric Casper
- SEPT. 4, 6 PM - "Fall Arts" Group Show & P.J. Gorman

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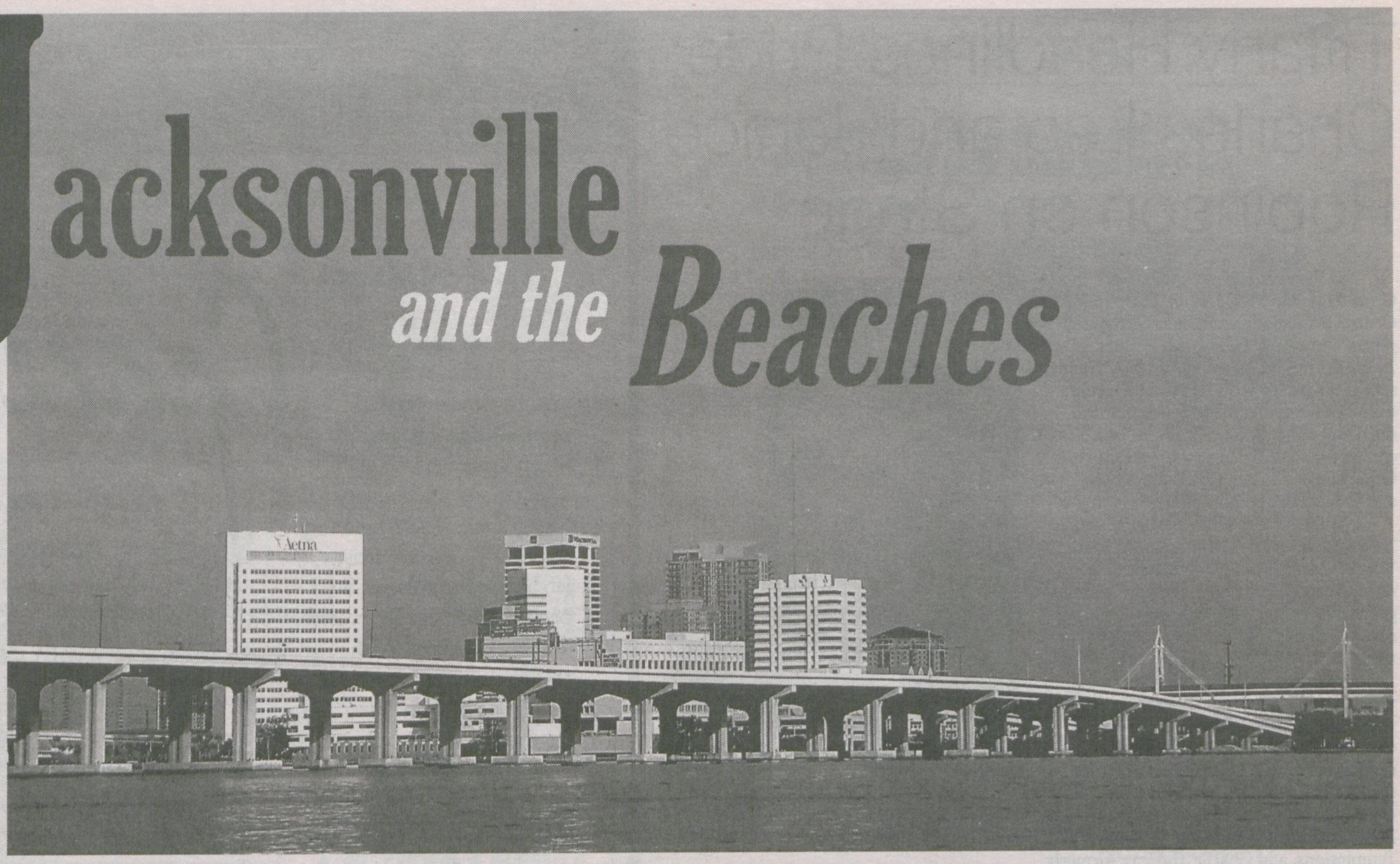


OUT OF TOWN
by Andrew Collins

Jacksonville sits along the Atlantic coast of northern Florida, and in some respects it possesses the gentile charm of low-country Georgia and the Carolinas. At the same time, this historic metropolis on the St. Johns River captures the laid-back, beach-y vibe more typical of Florida. Although this part of the state has a somewhat conservative reputation, Jacksonville has a lively gay scene and is becoming increasingly popular as an affordable, friendly vacation option for lgbt travelers.

Jacksonville is the state's largest city, both in population (800,000) and area (it stretches some 840 square miles - no city in the lower 48 states is bigger). It's the eastern terminus of I-10, which runs all the way across the country to Santa Monica, California, and also a major city along the East Coast's longest highway, I-95. As it's just a couple of hours by car from both Savannah and Orlando, it's pretty easy to get to or include on a road-trip through the Southeast.

The city doesn't have quite the Spanish colonial look of some parts of northern Florida because a massive fire in 1901 effectively leveled the city, destroying more than 2,300 buildings. But what you will see in many of the city's historic areas is a rich mix of Arts and Crafts, late Victorian-style, and Mediterranean Revival architecture.

Good neighborhoods for exploring include San Marco and Riverside, two historic residential areas that also have a variety of notable shops and restaurants. In Riverside, which has many of the Jacksonville's gay bars, much of the retail and dining action is concentrated in Historic Five Points, which is a funky neighborhood with a youthful, alternative personality. Another excellent Riverside area for exploring is the Avondale section, which is more upscale and refined and has some great restaurants.

Riverside's top cultural draw is the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens, which contains an outstanding collection of paintings and furnishings. The neighborhood is also the site of the city's popular gay pride celebration, First Coast Pride, held the last week of July. The parade runs from Avondale along the neighborhood's tree-shaded streets to Five Points, where there's a two-day festival in Riverside Park.

Jacksonville's dining scene is varied and interesting, with plenty of intriguing spots to choose room. In downtown Jacksonville, Chew is a dapper little American restaurant serving creative lunch and dinner fare, from grilled truffle-and-fontina-cheese sandwiches to steak au poivre with shoestring potatoes. The same owners operate Orsay, in Avondale, a romantic space with a terrific raw bar serving fresh oysters and a menu of sophisticated French brasserie food.

Affordable and cheerful Bungalow on the Park is a relative newcomer to Riverside, and already a favorite in the gay community. It's especially popular for brunch on weekends. Right in the center of Historic Five Points, Fuel is the GLBT community's favorite coffeehouse, with a variety of board games and big, comfy lounge chairs to relax in. There's frequently live music. Just around the corner, Mossfire Grill serves exceptionally good Southwestern-influenced American fare, from chicken empanadas to barbecue-shrimp tostadas.

You'll find some of the state's friendliest gay nightspots in Jacksonville, the most popular being the Metro, which comprises a number of distinct bars all under one roof, including a lesbian lounge, dance floor, cabaret, show bar, and several other lively areas. The patio is especially nice on warm evenings. Another club that draws big crowds is InCahoots, which is just east of Riverside on the edge of downtown and caters to a young (it's 18-and-over some evenings) bunch of club kids. Both the Metro and InCahoots are very mixed male/female.

Other bars in the same part of town include the Boot Rack Saloon, which is Jacksonville's headquarters for bears and butch guys; 616, a cruisy spot with a large patio and porn showing on the many TV screens; Park Place, a low-keyed video bar; and The Norm, which has a very popular following among lesbians and has dancing, pool tables, and karaoke nights. Club Jacksonville, in the San Marco neighborhood, is the city's gay bathhouse and sauna.

The city has a number of appealing lodging choices. Right downtown, the gay-friendly Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Waterfront has a convenient location, great river views, and comfy rooms. In Riverside, there are two gay-friendly inns of note. The Inn at Oak Street is a early 20th-century house with tastefully appointed, well-outfitted rooms with flat-screen TVs and cordless phones with voice mail; some units have whirlpool tubs. At the charming Riverdale Inn, a grand mansion close to the Cummer Museum, the rooms are sumptuous and romantic, and there's also a top-notch restaurant on-site. A moderate-priced, well-run, and conveniently located chain option, the Hampton Inn Jacksonville 9A and Baymeadows is newly built and very gay-friendly.

Although Jacksonville itself has plenty going on, it's also a gateway for exploring several very appealing coastal destinations: the historic city of St. Augustine, quaint Amelia Island, and the bustling cluster of beach communities to the east, which include Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, and Atlantic Beach.

Founded in 1565 and thus the oldest city in the United States, St. Augustine has a compact downtown of magnificent Spanish Colonial architecture (note in particular the buildings of Flagler College), lively lanes filled with festive if touristy galleries and cafes, and venerable inns and B&Bs. There's easily enough here to keep you busy for an afternoon, especially if you like browsing the wares of arts galleries and souvenir shops - you'll find a concentration of these along pedestrian-only St. George St., which leads north from the central Cathedral Square to Castillo de San Marcos National Monument.

Consider taking a tour of San Sebastian Winery, which produces not only fine wines but quite respected ports and cream sherries. You can have a drink in the winery's rooftop bar, which has live jazz and serves a menu of light tapas. Also check out the ornate, Moorish Revival-inspired Casa Monica Hotel, an elegant, gay-friendly place to stay that also has great spots for cocktails and dinner, the 95 Cordova Restaurant and hip Cobalt Lounge.

There are several gay-popular B&Bs in St. Augustine, most of them within easy walking distance of downtown attractions and dining. Two good bets include gay-owned Casa de Solana, which claims to be the city's second oldest inn and has 10

continued on page 23

Out of Town con'td

upscale rooms; and the Craftsman-style Saragossa Inn, an inviting B&B set along a quiet residential street.

It's roughly a 30-minute drive through the city's eastern sprawl of rather bland shopping centers and strip malls to reach the bustling communities of Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, and Jacksonville Beach. These family-oriented towns are strung together along the ocean and have the usual mix of mostly mid-range chain hotels, condos, souvenir shops, and typical seaside amusements. In Jacksonville Beach, you'll find the only gay bar out this way, Bo's Coral Reef, which is a fun place to shoot pool or linger over a drinks after a day at the beach. Also, if you're headed out toward the beaches from downtown, you might stop by AJ's Bar and Grill, a friendly gay hangout about 5 miles from the beach on Atlantic Boulevard.

In Atlantic Beach, you'll find the most inviting lodging option in the area, the lavish One Ocean Resort, a beachfront property with handsomely appointed rooms, a large pool area, a well-respected resort, and one of the greater Jacksonville's most sophisticated and romantic restaurants, Azurea. A more casual option for healthy dining in the area is Shakti Life Kitchen, a vegetarian cafe in Atlantic Beach serving tasty pizzas, salads, and Mediterranean-inspired fare.

About 45 minutes' drive northeast of Jacksonville, near the Georgia border, you'll find the upscale, historic community of Fernandina Beach, on Amelia Island. This barrier island is less developed than the beach communities due east of Jacksonville, and it's an ideal locale for biking, strolling, golfing, and viewing the islands prolific birdlife and precious habitat of nesting loggerhead turtles. If you're just on Amelia Island for the day, head for Centre Street, and browse the many boutiques and galleries.

For a memorable meal, book a table at 29 South, a stylish bistro in the heart of Fernandina Beach serving creative American fare, such as lobster "corn dogs" with spicy horseradish ketchup and a famous dessert of glazed-doughnut bread pudding topped with butterscotch sauce and mocha ice cream.

The most famous accommodation on Amelia Island is also one of northeastern Florida's most gay-friendly lodgings, the sumptuous Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island, which overlooks a lovely beach and has every activity you could want for a special getaway - spa treatments, golfing, fine dining. More intimate overnight options include a pair of gay-friendly B&Bs, the 11-room Ash Street Inn, and the warmly furnished Hoyt House B&B, which has 10 elegant rooms.

With the combination of a city center enjoying a steady renaissance and easy access to so many enchanting beach towns, it's easy to envision Jacksonville developing into a notable gay vacation destination in the years to come.

Andrew Collins is the author of Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA and eight additional travel guides. He can be reached care of this publication or at OutofTown@qsyndicate.com.

The Little Black Book

AJ's Bar and Grill (904-805-9060). Ash Street Inn (904-277-6660, www.ashstreetinn.net).
Bistro Aix (904-398-1949, www.bistrox.com).
Boot Rack Saloon (904-384-7090, www.bootrack.com).
Bo's Coral Reef (904-246-9874, www.bosclub.com).
Bungalow on the Park (904-374-1066, www.thebungalowonpark.com).
Casa Monica Hotel (904-819-6087, www.historichotels.org/hotel/Casa_Monica_Hotel).
Casa de Solana (904-824-3555, www.casadesolana.com).
Chew (904-355-3783, www.chewrestaurant.com).
Club Jacksonville (904-398-7451, www.clubjax.com/clubjax).
European Street Cafe (904-384-9999, www.europeanstcafe.com).
Fuel Coffeehouse (904-425-3835, www.fuelin5pts.com).
Gay Jacksonville online (www.gayjax.com).
Hampton Inn (904-722-8881, www.hamptoninn.hilton.com).
Hoyt House B&B (904-277-4300, www.hoythouse.com).
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Waterfront (904/588-1234, www.jacksonville.hyatt.com).
InCahoots Nightclub (904-353-6316, www.incahootsjax.com).
Inn on Oak Street (904-379-5525, www.innatoakstreet.com).
Metro (904-388-8719, www.metrojax.com).
Mossfire Grill (904-355-4434, www.mossfire.com).
The Norm (904-388-9503).
One Ocean Resort Hotel and Spa (904-249-7402, www.oneoceanresort.com).
Orsay (904-381-0909, www.restaurantorsay.com).
Park Place (904-389-6616).
Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island (904-277-1100, www.ritzcarlton.com).
Riverdale Inn (904-354-5080 or 866-808-3400, www.riverdaleinn.com).
San Sebastian Winery (904-826-1594, www.sansebastianwinery.com).
Saragossa Inn (904-808-7384, www.thesaragossainn.com).
Shakti Life Kitchen (904-247-7116, www.shaktilifekitchen.com).616 (904-358-6969).
29 South (904-277-7919, www.29southrestaurant.com).

book review

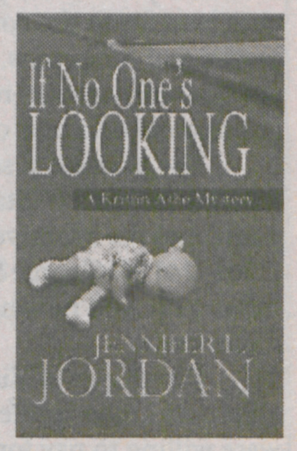
Dauphin County Library Adds LGBT Titles

By Lewis Maurer
Dauphin County Library System

"The Dauphin County Library System is a bridge that unites available, affordable and accessible information with a widely diverse community," says , Reference Department Manager Lewis Maurer. "We offer a world of terrific lgbt information and entertainment."

"Think outside of the book and check us out for movies, books on CD or MP3 and downloadable audio books that you can listen to on your iPod or MP3 player," he says. This year the library is making access easier and adding hundreds of new titles to our lgbt collection. Info: Stop by your Dauphin County Library System library or visit www.DCLS.org to cruise the hottest titles.

Best Lesbian Love Stories 2009
Edited by Simone Thorne
Whether romance is missing from your life or you just want a little injection of fantasy, this book will have you dreaming about love and lust. Pick it up and fall in love.



If No One's Looking
A Kristin Ashe Mystery
Jennifer L. Jordan
Kayla's lesbian mothers insist that Kayla was snatched out of their suburban backyard in the middle of the day, but the police suspect them of child abuse resulting in death. The case becomes more daunting when Kristin uncovers secrets in the two women's pasts and the lesbian community divides over whether to offer the couple support.

First You Fall
Scott Sherman
When his friend's death is ruled a suicide, Kevin Connor-a hustler by trade, sleuth by default-sets out to prove a case of murder. His mother has moved in with him, and his ex-lover who broke his heart back in high school, has reappeared as the lead investigator on the case.

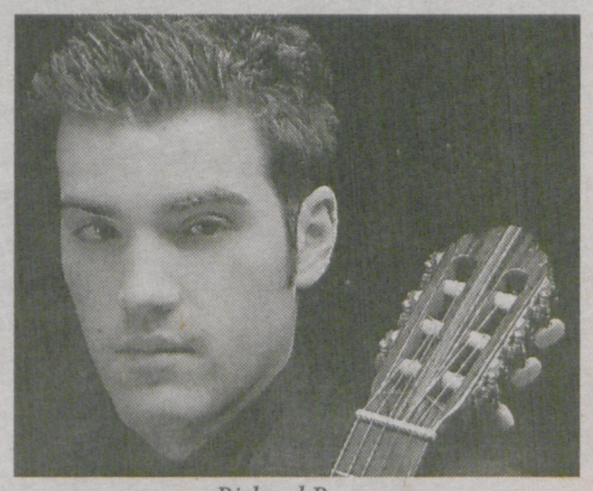
Boston Boys Club
Johnny Diaz
In his sharply observed and engrossing new novel, Diaz depicts the lives of the men who gather in Boston's hottest gay bar to drink, mingle and share stories as they search for the perfect man. Diaz gives us situations, hopes, fears, and especially characters that all readers will identify with, and may even recognize as themselves.

Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center Sneak Preview

Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center (HMAC), 1110 North Third Street, offered a sneak preview March 7-8 with the opening of Stage on Herr "Curtain UP!" The event was a fundraiser for Jump Street for programs such as "The Gift of Music of the Capital Region," a series of initiatives to collect, restore, and distribute band and orchestra instruments to students interested in learning to play an instrument.

Tim Warfield

Entertainers included Tim Warfield Band; NYC comedian Joe DeRosa, DJ Geoffro and Projectionist Justin Ayala, flamenco guitarist Richard Barry with Polish violinist Katarzyna Bryla performing as a duo, and OBA OBA, the area's favorite Brazilian band.



Richard Barry

Info: www.harrisburgarts.com

York Spearheads Adaptive Reuse Trend

"Codo is a wonderful synergy, the creative reuse of an existing building right across the street from our new stadium," says Mary Beth Hare, corporate sales manager for York Revolution professional baseball team. She's wearing an "I Love Downtown York" button.

Adaptive reuse is conventionally defined as "the process of adapting old structures for new purposes." The architectural approach prolongs a building's cradle-to-grave life cycle by retaining all or most of the structural system and as much as possible of other elements, such as cladding, glass, and interior partitions.

In Harrisburg, Gary Bartlett, president, Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center, 1110 N 3rd Street, says "Apart from the obvious employment opportunities, the decision to restore our facility has already proven to be a very wise decision." He cites benefits to the community-at-large like cultural non-profits and for-profits, community space for events. "HMAC will not only cement revitalization of Midtown Harrisburg, but also create a true cultural arts destination."

The practice is so popular even the US Secretary of the Interior published "Standards for Rehabilitation" on accepted guidelines for adaptive reuse of historic buildings. In York, Codo, 241 N. George St., is a prime example of taking an urban relic and reusing the space, a trend taking hold in city's nationwide.

Developer William Swartz's firm saw a steady flow of young and older professionals who wanted nice housing and were willing to pay for it. Local investors razed to the occasion. The city has cultivated a movement known as "Fresh York," momentum to update the city's housing, entertainment, arts, nightlife and more. "Our goal was to build the most progressive apartment complex in the region," Swartz says. They hired architecture firm Murphy Dittenhafer to implement green strategies and innovative design.

Codo highlights "Fresh York" movement towards updating the city's housing, entertainment, arts, nightlife.

"We made our units apartments rather than condos because we wanted people to feel free to try out the town and not worry about resale, maintenance, water/sewer/trash, taxes, and," Swartz says. The 35 unit project offers high ceilings, huge windows, off street parking, central air, a rooftop deck and a corner cafe. The building is less than a five minute walk to restaurants, nightlife, The Strand Capitol Performing Arts Center, Central Market and The Rail Trail, and within a five-minute drive to Rt. 30, I-83 and shopping. Across the street is York's new baseball stadium. "Forget the fancy car. All you need is a cool pair of sneakers," Swartz says.

"We went out of our way to make our apartments as energy efficient as possible," Swartz says, using reclaimed materials whenever possible. For example, half of the apartments have beautiful 100 year old maple floors. "We also used 150-year-old reclaimed barn siding to face the entire four-story elevator shaft. Codo green features include Energy Star appliances; eco-friendly flooring; recycled and sustainable construction materials; huge glass windows for ample natural lighting; high efficiency furnaces; motion-detector lighting; reuse of existing materials, salvaged lumber, and low-VOC carpet, paint, adhesives. The property is smoke free. Meaning no smoking will be allowed anywhere on the property, inside or out.

Another local example of adaptive reuse is the Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center, an undertaking to develop an unoccupied community center into a multipurpose arts center.

Bill Swartz, developer

Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival Awarded Prestigious Grant

Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival is one of only two theatres in the state of Pennsylvania to be singled out for a prestigious Challenge America grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The Challenge America: Reaching Every Community grants of $10,000 each are awarded to arts organizations around the country that bring the arts to underserved communities.

Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival is working with community organizations in Allison Hill in order to raise awareness for the annual Free Shakespeare in the Park production, which takes place each June in Levitt Pavilion in Reservoir Park. The NEA awarded this grant to HSF to aid the effort to bring arts into the Allison Hill community of Harrisburg, which does not often have the opportunity to host or enjoy artistic endeavors.

Part of the NEA's goal is to provide wide access to artistic excellence, and HSF is honored to have been chosen for this grant and to have the opportunity to bring great art into a community that seldom has access to it. This year's production of Free Shakespeare in the Park is Cymbeline, a rarely-performed romance written late in the Bard's career. The Challenge America grant will be used towards the production costs of Cymbeline.

HSF will also be using a portion of the grant to bring in American Sign Language interpreters for two performances of Cymbeline, on June 12 and 13. Performances of Cymbeline will take place at Levitt Pavilion in Reservoir Park from June 3 – 13, Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Admission and parking are free.

Info: www.gamutplays.org

Steve Kozokas, Central Voice Account Executive, is also an accomplished DJ. For advertising, he may contacted at stevenkozokas@pressandjournal.com. For DJing, he may be contacted at Djayhifi@aol.com.

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Over the last several months my works have been shown in many different venues such as Hershey Medical Center, Dauphin County Courthouse, Gallery at Walnut Place, Mansion at Reservoir Park, Stocks on 2nd, Molly Branigans, Appalachian Brewing Company, and the Art Association of Harrisburg.

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Pop Art and Romanticism at Second Floor Gallery & Gallerie 13

Second Floor Gallery & Gallerie 13 offer lots of choices for May and June.

2nd Floor Gallery

At 2nd Floor Gallery, May 16, 7-20 p.m. "Gallery Saturday" Art Reception. Free admission. Live music by a local musicians. Visit artists' studios. Featured Artists: "Abstract Art" Group Show. All work on the abstract side, multiple artists.

Also featured is P. J. Gorman. His intoxicating style draws upon the art of tribal cultures giving way to shamanistic pop art approach to design. By using acrylic paint he is able to achieve a high degree of color saturation. Dot paintings are the traditional art from of Australian Aborigines. These acrylic paintings are his interpretation of this ancient art form using modern materials. The idea behind the dot paintings is along the lines of a meditative practice. Each dot representing a thought, reminding us that with our thoughts we create the world we live in.

Terry Kennedy - Artist

June 20, 7-10 p.m. "Gallery Saturday" Art Reception. Free admission. Live music by a local musicians. Visit studios. Featured artists: Terry Kennedy who takes his inspiration from the Pop Art of the 60's and 70's. "I work mostly from photographs, and use shapes and flat areas of color to define the form. I try to paint the essence of the photograph, using only what is necessary to create a likeness. While my painting look more realistic than the earlier 'cartoon' images of Pop Art, I do try to recreate the mechanical ways of reproduction such as the silk screening done by Andy Warhol," Kennedy says. He often paints portraits of celebrities because he is "intrigued by the idea of fame. I am discovering that viewers of my paintings will often remark about the celebrities featured in them before they talk about the painting itself."

Terry Kennedy - Artist

2nd Floor Gallery was voted "Best of West Shore" 2008; Carlisle Sentinel & Reader's Choice, 2008, Harrisburg Magazine. Gallerie 13 was voted 2nd place "Best of West Shore" in 2008. Info: 2nd Floor Gallery, 105 S. Market St., Mecahnicsburg, Pa. 17055;
717.697.0502; www.2ndFloorGallery.com.

Gallerie 13

At Gallerie 13 May 1, 6-9 p.m. is "1st Friday" Art Reception. Free Admission. Live music by a local musicians. Visit the artists' studios. Featured artists: Mechanicsburg Area High School Senior Recognition Show. More than 60 works of art all styles and media from seniors from the high school.

continued on page 28

David Bottini - Artist

OPEN STAGE OF HARRISBURG
SEASON 23

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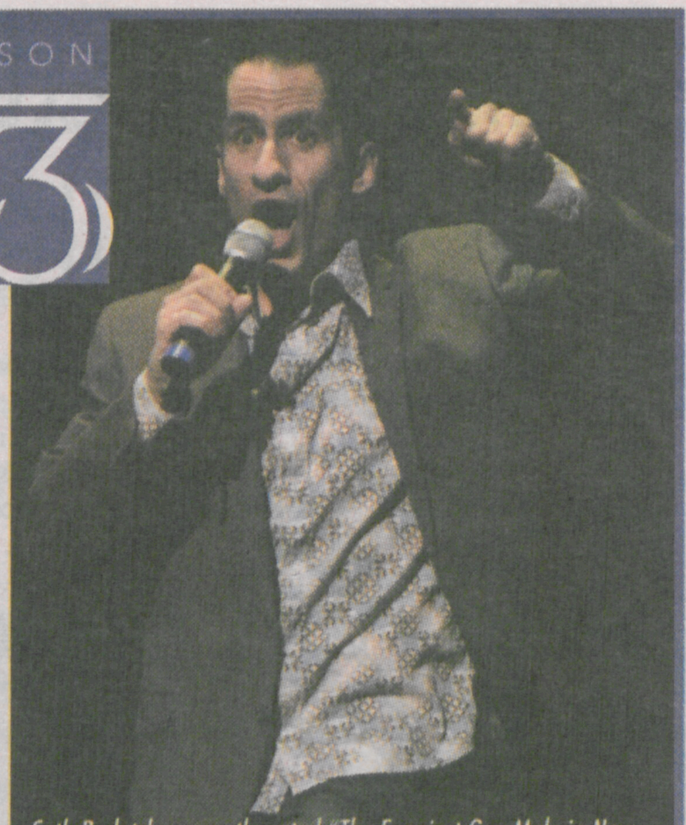
Seth Rudetsky's
DECONSTRUCTING BROADWAY:
The Good, The Bad and the Headache-y



Seth Rudetsky, recently voted "The Funniest Gay Male in New York" will be bringing his own private video and audio collection to show the audience how to deconstruct what's vocally amazing (Patti LuPone in Evita) and what's a vocal travesty (Madonna singing the same material).

June 4, 5, 6

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Pop Art con'td

June 5, 6-9 p.m. "1st Friday" Art Reception. Free admission. Live music by a local musicians. Visit artists' studios. Featured artists: David Bottini "for Gabriel". Sharp focus on romanticism. Acrylic on panel and canvas. Bottinni says "the light, the colors of the fields and great variety of terrain and atmospheric effects in this river valley furnish end less awe and subjects for his artistic study. His painting signature "Gabriel" is dedicated to his grandfather for his interest in nature and appreciation of the word around him.

Also featured is "Special Friends" Pet Art Group Show. This show features art work from over six different local artists. All work will be about animals. Gallery goers are encouraged to vote on "Best of Show".

Info: Gallerie 13, 13 E. Main St., Mechanicsburg, Pa. 17055; 717.591.6940; www.Gallerie13.com.

David Bottini - Artist

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Stonewall Veteran Tells All

In 1966, when the Stonewall Club first opened, Avon chose Williamson Lee Henderson as "the most stylish American hairstyle" after a much-publicized national campaign. "Funny thing is my model agency and manager thought my "hair was too long," code words then for looking gay. He won the hair contest anyway and never looked back.

Three years later, Henderson participated in the historic Stonewall Rebellion that sparked the modern-day gay and lesbian civil rights movement. Henderson and others will lead this year's parade preceding the Central PA Pride Festival July 25.

Like many young men of his era, he had a daytime and a nighttime persona. "My 'Straight All-American Boy' look was real but only for daytime, like my schooling, commercial modeling and going to Catholic church on Sundays," Henderson says. "Nighttime was the real me."

By 1969 he was driving gay comrades in his brand-new metallic blue Cadillac convertible with white leather, power everything, head rest seats and wide, whitewall tires. Since the June 28, 1969 Stonewall Rebellion, his car has been known as the Stonewall Car, which he still owns. The night of the rebellion, his car was impounded, thus beginning the vehicle's history as the Stonewall Car.

The official date of the Stonewall Rebellion is June 28 because the action took place after midnight June 27. The police raid and ensuing struggle started to percolate before midnight June 27 but didn't ignite until later into the night, about 1:15 a.m. In a collision of events only a dark-humored queen could summon up, June 27 was the day Judy Garland had been buried uptown where 20,000 admirers had gathered outside Frank E. Campbell funeral chapel. The No.1 pop music hit at the club was "Judy in Disguise (with Glasses)". A No. 1 song that year was "Stand!," by the mixed-gender and multi-racial Sly & the Family Stone.

After clubbing around with friends at their usual haunts, Henderson ended up back at the Stonewall.

"Zuckie, co-owner with Mario Tomasi and mob doorman Fat Tony greeted us at the bar's solid, carved wood, castle-like door. Originally, the place was a British, pub-type inn and it still had (and has) that intriguing look. Fat Tony really liked Henderson. In contrast, Eddie Murphy, middle-aged gay guardian of the gate, always embarrassingly announced that "You little, under-aged, rich boys are gonna get this place busted one day". Rich mea we arrived in a car not by subway, bus or on foot.

Whispers through the crowd that night hinted at a raid that would be executed quickly but present no real problems. New York City police routinely raided the gay bars mostly run by the mob as a way to get cash. "The detectives, the vice squad, the liquor authority, the state fuzz, the local cops, ultimately the tactical patrol forces and whoever else the authorities had that night picked the wrong time," Henderson remembers. Cross-dressing lesbian Storme Delaverie also remembers. He threw the first punch.

As the squads entered the bar, a cop named Kevin who had nabbed Henderson man times before raced right to him outside. He scuffled then sensed a chance to break away and escape, but he had "nowhere to run, nowhere to hide," same as the then-popular Martha Reeves & the Vandellas song. "I was surrounded by three cops: an plainclothes brute who tackled and pulled me down; a dumbfounded uniformed "dick" and a sympathetic NYC cop.

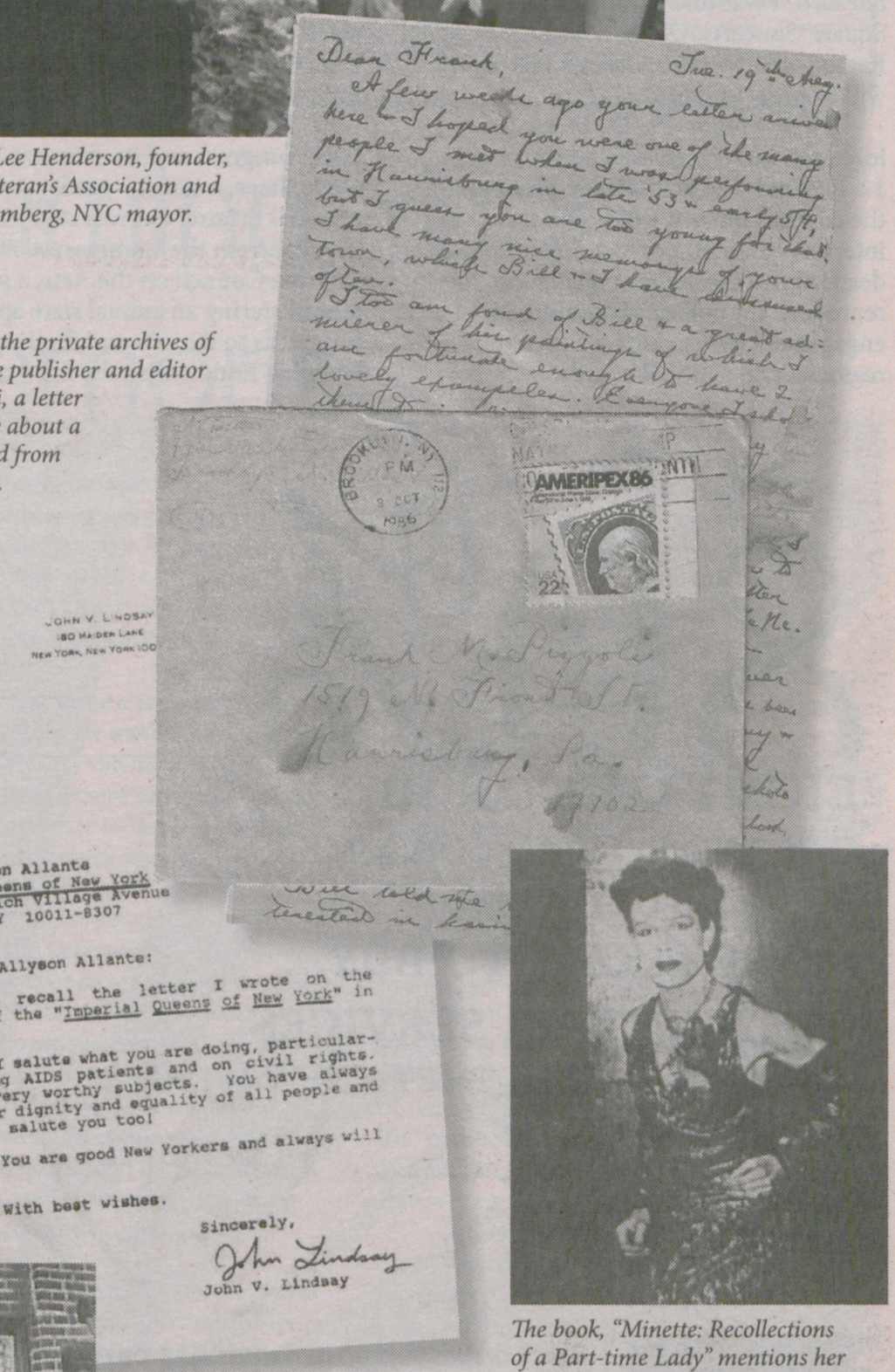
DeLarverie was right there. "Leave that young boy alone!" he yelled at the cops. Folded into the melee, a plainclothes policeman punched him in the face. He slugged the cop right back in the jaw. In a later interview for "In the Life," he replied "He was on the ground. Out." About 2,000 gay people held off about 400 cops that night on Sheridan Square. Over the next five nights, boisterous crowds gathered to make speeches.

Also on hand the night of the rebellion was, Minette, a drag artist with a long career. She started performing professionally in drag at age 16, in Boston, and moved to New York City in the 50s. She was definitely a different breed of artist - she wrote her own material, unusual for this genre, and in the 70s was a member of Charles Ludlam's Ridiculous Theatre Company. Minette can be heard, but not seen, singing the humourous "I Hate to See My Little Son Go Down" in the 1960s drag documentary, "The Queen." One album survives: "Come To Me at Tea-Time" (Collector's Choice Records LP, 1968).

Henderson and others will hoist a booth at Pride and look forward to meeting and greeting local members of the community.

Williamson Lee Henderson, founder, Stonewall Veteran's Association and Michael Bloomberg, NYC mayor.

(right) From the private archives of Central Voice publisher and editor Frank Pizzoli, a letter from Minette about a mutual friend from Lebanon, PA.



Dear Frank,

Tues. 19th Aug.

A few weeks ago your letter arrived here & I hoped you were one of the many people I met when I was performing in Harrisburg in late '53 & early '54, but I guess you are too young for that. I have many nice memories of your town, which Bill & I back & forward of fun.

I too am fond of Bill & a great admirer of his paintings of which I am fortunate enough to have 2 lovely examples. Everyone I

JOHN V. LINDSAY
180 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 100

BROOKLYN, NY
PM
9 OCT
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AMERIPEX86

Frank M. Pizzoli
159 N. Front St.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Queen Allyson Allante
Imperial Queens of New York
70-A Greenwich Village Avenue
New York, NY 10011-8307

Dear Queen Allyson Allante:

I recall the letter I wrote on the founding of the "Imperial Queens of New York" in 1969.

I salute what you are doing, particularly, helping AIDS patients and on civil rights. Both are very worthy subjects. You have always battled for dignity and equality of all people and for that I salute you too!

You are good New Yorkers and always will be so.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

John Lindsay

John V. Lindsay

The book, "Minette: Recollections of a Part-time Lady" mentions her performing in Harrisburg, PA.
Private archives, Frank Pizzoli.

See Stonewall 40th Anniversary Video at ***thecentralvoice.ning.com***

Open Stage Announces "Women Who Care" Honorees

Open Stage of Harrisburg recently announced honorees for its 2009 "Women Who Care" program. The program honors women who demonstrate unselfish devotion to the Greater Harrisburg community and to the arts, including Open Stage.

This year's awards are sponsored by PinnacleHealth System and are presented before each Friday night performance of the theatre's "Flying Solo Festival", June 4-27.

Recipients are Kristin Scofield, co-founder of "Women in the Arts," and community volunteer. She joined Susan Cohen as co-director of "Women in the Arts" from 1980-1984. Since 1987 she has worked at the State Museum of Pennsylvania and presently is an administrative assistant in the Exhibits Department.

Scofield has been served on the boards of Harrisburg Academy Board of Trustees, Theatre Harrisburg Board of Directors, and Open Stage of Harrisburg. She also serves on committees of Market Square Concerts, United Way of the Capital Region, and Messiah College. Her award will be presented June 5.

Kim Phipps, Ph. D., Messiah College president, receives her award June 12. Phipps is the first woman president in the college's history, where she served as interim president, provost, and academic dean. Active throughout the region, she represents the college's commitment to civic engagement by serving on a variety of local, regional, and national boards.

Cordell Affeldt, visual artist and educator, is honored June 19. Affeldt has taught in public and private elementary schools in Wisconsin, California, and Indiana. She is past-president of the Indiana State Teachers Association, and came to Pennsylvania in 1985 as Director of Professional Programs for the Pennsylvania State Education Association.

Since retirement, Affeldt has been an English language and life skills tutor with Bosnian and Somali refugees. She is a long-term activist for the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Fund, for graduates of Harrisburg High School seeking post-secondary education. Over the last decade, she has been creating wearable art as premiums for contributions to the scholarship.

Jeanne McClintick receives her award June 26. McClintick has spent 35 years in nursing, a hospice & palliative care licensed nurse. She was director of nursing for Outlook Pointe of Harrisburg and program director for Keystone Human Services/ Dauphin County Mental Retardation Program.

Information on the "Women Who Care" program and its events at 214-3250. Open Stage, a not-for-profit professional regional theatre, receives state arts funding support from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency administering an annual state appropriation for grants to the arts and funding from the National Endowment for the Arts

LGBT-friendly Zephyr Express Adds New Menu Selections

Historically an lgbt-friendly restaurant where diverse groups from all walks of life easily mix, the ever-popular Zephyr Express, 231 North Street, Harrisburg, 717-233-2009, plans to add some tasty new menu items. "We're also working with a wine consultant to make our wine list even better than it is," says head chef and owner David Lerch. As a hands-on, quality-oriented owner, he's a welcome and friendly face to his customers.

Zephyr is participating in Pride Dine Out, Tues., May 12, 5 -9 p.m.

In keeping with their established reputation as offering affordable yet scrumptious lunch and dinner selections, Lerch says "Diners can look for added fish and seafood dishes." He and his staff will also add bread bowls with soup. As appetizers, the Zephyr Bread, formerly known as Killer Bread, remain a mainstay, a baguette with creamy garlic sauce and melted cheese. Another house item is their Sangria, made with a white wine plus seasonal fruits. "Our famous Zephyr Bread stays and our popular tuna diners remain," he says.

Zephyr's menu also offers no trans fat items. "We have no trans fat items on our menu, no fried foods. When needed, we sauté in olive oil," says head chef Charles Diegel.

Known as the self-dubbed "best little restaurant in Harrisburg," Zephyr offers dinners ranging from $8-$18. Their full bar and patio, in addition to inside seating, offers a refreshing and private, off-the-street al fresco atmosphere. The large tables, comfortable chairs, and umbrellas are inviting. Domes of the city's Capitol Building and Cathedral of St. Patrick are visible from the patio. Second floor rooms are available for special group dinners. One room comfortably seats 14. The board room seats 10. "We've done baby showers, bridal showers, and we once closed the restaurant to the public to entertain Hershey Medical Center's Radiology Dept.," Lerch says. Stop by and see why it's known as the best little restaurant in the city.

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Lang

Continued from page one

American song book and those experiences are still special for me."

When Lang worked with the legendary Roy Orbison, both she and Bonnie Raitt were his back-up singers. "I was 26 years old working as a back-up singer alongside Raitt! We worked hard and learned a lot. Our vocal work was intricate," she remembers.

Her work on movie soundtracks has earned notches in Hollywood folklore. "Gus Van Sant gave me full leeway when he asked me to do his soundtrack," Land says, referring to "Even Cowgirl's Get the Blues". The James Bond soundtrack experience was different. "They wanted something very specific. I'm happy working either way, a challenge is a challenge."

At 47 and a practicing Buddhist for nine years, Lang says her contemplative side has influenced her views on gay politics. She meditates and chants daily.

"Practicing Buddhism has widened my view of the world, myself, and the struggles our community faces," she explains. Lang asks gay people to remember that we live in a world full of minorities that face equal or worse injustices. "We can use the experiences of our own oppression to more easily identify with others who are put down, even murdered, like Matthew Shepard, for who they are. We are not the only oppressed group."

Lang, who came out as a lesbian in a 1992 article in The Advocate, has actively championed gay rights causes. She sometimes utilizes an androgynous physical appearance. She has performed and supported many causes over the years, including HIV/AIDS care and research. Her cover of Cole Porter's "So in Love" appears on the Red Hot + Blue compilation album and video from 1990, a benefit for AIDS research and relief.

Her animal rights vegetarian stance, including a "Meat Stinks" campaign, created much controversy, particularly at her hometown in the middle of Alberta's cattle ranching industry.

Lang appeared on the cover of the August 1993 issue of Vanity Fair. The cover featured Lang in a barber chair while model Cindy Crawford appeared to shave her face with a straight razor. The issue contained a detailed article about Lang which observed that she had thought that she would be ostracized by the country music industry when she came out as a lesbian. However, Nashville was accepting, and her records continued to sell.

See/hear Lang sing Roy Orbison hit "Cryin'" at ***thecentralvoice.ning.com***

When she appeared in an ad for PETA however, Nashville was less impressed owing to the relationship between country music and cattle ranching.

In April 2008, Lang spent time in Melbourne, Australia, as a guest editorialist for The Age. This was in connection with her support for the Tibet human rights issues. At one point she joined pro-Tibet protesters in Canberra as the Beijing 2008 Summer Olympics torch relay made its way through the Australian capital.

Lang feels that "the gay community's experiences make us uniquely able to lead with an informed and compassionate view.

Members of the community gathered for another Pride Festival of Central PA Breakfast April 18 at the Metropolitan Community Church, Harrisburg. Top left: Jeffrey Clouser, Yvonne Smith, Donald Anklam, Diana Kuhns. Bottom right: Tammy Cassel and Mark Smith.

Framing Your Memories

The framing business is so popular these days holding its creativity inside a frame may be impossible. In particular, framing your memories is a growing niche business. Reader's Digest offers craft books on the topic and Amazon.com reports brisk sales.

"When we frame a memory, says Paper Lion Gallery co-owner Bill Grace,

"We reflect on the item, whether it's a card, a note, a document or object." Grace engages the customer to determine their feelings about the piece and how to best enhance and present the item for viewing.

"We talk about décor, color, style and consider the time period, origins, what would have been an appropriate way to display the piece in its day, adds Paper Lion Gallery co-owner Jim Hatfield. "We can also look at ways to update the item so it fits in with today's styles. Hatfield and Grace also consider various ways to protect the piece from additional damage from sunlight, dust and other elements, using materials specifically designed for this purpose.

They've done Grateful Dead t-shirts and original oils, antique silk embroideries from China and cross stitches from Camp Hill. "One of our best pieces involved a set of six antique postcards from the turn of the century. Each one depicted a phase of courtship, including the engagement and the honeymoon. The original card that they were attached to was extremely brittle. We were able to save the card using acid free materials, and mounted the postcards in a visually stunning shadow box frame with suede mat." Grace says.

Another great project for the gallery was framing an antique map of Paris. Their client had a 12-foot tall living room wall that needed a big piece for balance. "The client and his wife spend several weeks a year in France so we located a vintage Paris map. We then took the map to a local graphics company who enlarged the map to 72" x 60". We cut the map into six pieces and framed each piece separately in a clean, contemporary ebony frame and hung the six pieces with a 4 inch gap between each panel-extremely dynamic, looked spectacular," Hatfield says.

In the spirit of green awareness, the gallery offers the entire Biltmore series of molding and mats based George Vanderbilt's desire for his home to be a sustainable estate. The Biltmore Collection is the industry's first Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) framework. The mat board is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council and the gallery offers ecoCare earth friendly frames

June 9, 6-8 p.m. the gallery will display the latest works by David Kern. His new series, "Tied", has a great 80s retro vibe using color and composition to look at the male form. His new works will be available in a variety of media including canvas, limited edition giclees, and even a few fabric accessories. Kern's show coincides with the June Central Pennsylvania Gay Lesbian Chamber of Commerce Mixer being held at the gallery. For non-chamber members, a $5 guest fee is requested for this event.

Info: Paper Lion Gallery, Inc., 1217 Hummel Ave., Lemoyne, Pa 17043; (717) 612-9950; paprlion@pa.net

Who are our care givers?

Our caregivers are the people providing care for the chronically ill, disabled or aged family member, friend or neighbor.

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social organizations & recreational clubs

Gay & Lesbian Artisan Pride
Discuss topics important to today's gay artist, Mentoring and nuturing growth of "Up Coming" and amateur artists, Promote art awareness within our own community, Creating and Coordinating group shows. Please email or call with interest/Questions/ Comments.
Phone: (717)732-0233
Contact: Michael Reed
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Calls and Emails Can be made Days/ Evenings
Email: mreeddesigns@yahoo.com

Harrisburg Gay Men's & Women's Volleyball
3rd and Bridge St
New Cumberland, PA
Phone: 717.233.3172
Contact: Jim
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. - 9.30 p.m.

Baughman United Methodist Church
Harrisburg Ladies Night Out
New Cumberland. Cost: $2.50
PO Box 266
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: 717.232.8382
Contact: Judy Chambers
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available

HOWL
HOWL hanging out with lesbians. Group of 140 women. Other web address http://groups.yahoo.com/group/howlofpa/ to join
Contact: Gina Bowers-Miller
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: howlofpa@yahoo.com
Website: http://www.homestead.com/howlofpa/index.hmtl

Lambda Car Club Int'l Central PA Region
Organization of GLBT people who are interested in collectable automobiles
3623 Green Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717.238.9766
Contact: John Ball
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Hours: Meet monthly at different members houses, call for
Email: buickbum2@aol.com

Rainbow Pride Rural Project
This project intends to create support for the GLBT community living in rural York, Juniata, Mifflin and Perry Counties. It is funded by the Foundation for Enhancing Communities and housed within Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit located in uptown Harrisburg, Pa.
2973 Jefferson St.
Harrisburg, Pa. 17110-2127
Phone: 717-236-7387
Contact: Kevin E. Burrell
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Email: kevinb2004@msn.com

Students Advocating LGBTA Equality
Shippensburg University Cumberland Union Building
Box 89
Shippensburg, Pa 17265
Phone: 717-477-1616
Contact: Travis Eichelberger
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: susale@gmail.com
Website: www.ship.edu/~msa/SALE.htm

Susquehanna Club
Group camping open to LGBT people and their friends.
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: camp@susq.org
Website: www.susq.org

Susquehanna Valley Bears
PO Box 11, Manchester, PA 17345
Contact: John Bowermaster
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Email: info@svbears.com
Website: www.svbears.com

The Pennsmen, Inc
The Pennsmen, Inc are Central PA's glbt leather/levi/kink social organization. Membership is open to anyone over the age of 21 with an interest in the lifestyle. Meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month at the Neptune Lounge @ 3:00pm
PO Box 401
HARRISBURG, PA 17108-0401
Phone: 717-232-3785
Contact: Steven James
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Evenings
Email: pennsmen@pennsmen.org
Website: www.pennsmen.org

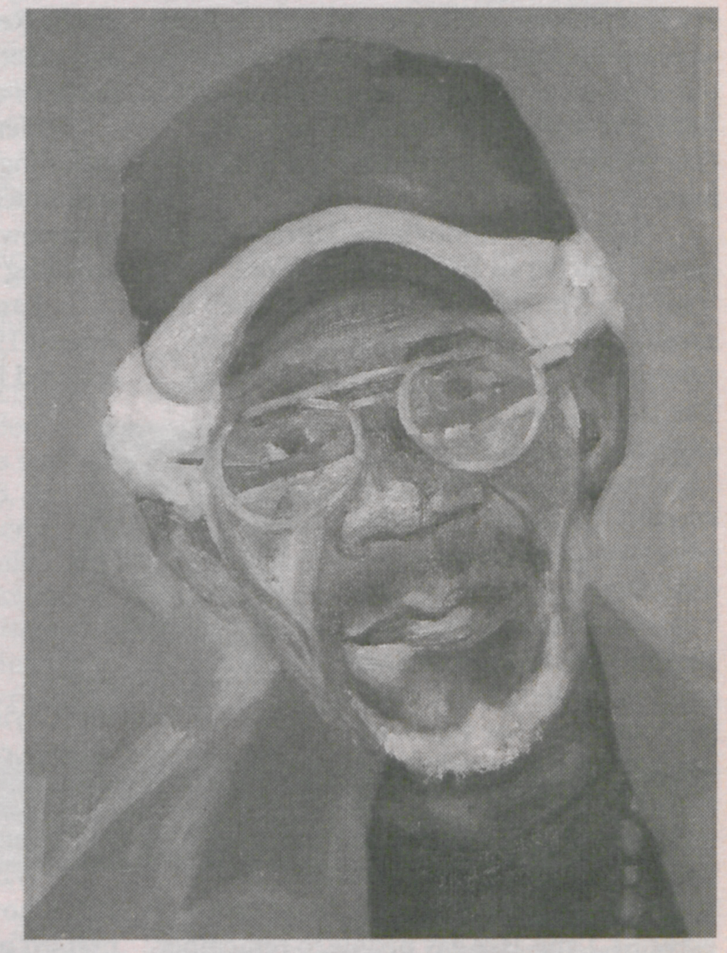
The Rainbow Bowling League
The Rainbow Bowling League bowls every Thursday at 8:55 p.m. We bowl out of the ABC East Lanes on Eisenhower Blvd in Harrisburg and are considered a "mixed" league: in other words, both men and women are welcome. We would like to invite anyone interested in joining or you have friends that are interested in bowling on Thursday evenings. Call for more details. Openings for individual bowlers, teams and substitutes.
Phone: 763-8444
Contact: Mark or Robert
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Thursday 8:45 P.M.

Women's Circle
c/o Bobbi Carmitchell
Locust Lane Music, P.O. Box 8301
Lancaster, Pa 17604
Phone: 717.872.4512
Contact: Bobbi Carmitchell
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: bobbi@womenscircle.org
Website: www.womenscircle.org

7 Lively Artists and Homeless Exhibit

The popular "plein air" painters known as "The Seven Lively Artists" exhibit at the Art Association of Harrisburg through May 7. Sponsors of the exhibition are Mr. and Mrs. Derek Hathaway. The exhibition reception was hosted by Board Members David Morrison and Bill Wollyung.

Portraits of the homeless are also on view at the Reservoir Mansion through May 30. The exhibit displays Elayn Leopold's poignant and powerful portraits of the homeless people she has encountered at a Florida soup kitchen. The Mansion is located at 100 Concert Drive, Reservoir Park, Harrisburg.



Urban Dwellers by Elayn Leopold

Formed in the 1950's by seven young artists who enjoyed painting together and meeting to talk about their art, "The Seven Lively Artists" has now evolved into a loosely-knit group of approximately 18 painters, all men. The rationale for the "men-only" rule is that the group goes on week-long painting expeditions, and female significant others would be jealous if women artists went along.

Earl Blust, AAH Board Member, is the sole remaining member of the original group. Others who are longer-time members are Karl Foster, Don Lenker, Dominick Brandt, Edward Webber , Bruce Johnson, and Joseph John Dudding. Newer to the Livelies are John McNulty, Jonathan Frazier, Bill Kerman, David Henry, Brian Eppley, Robert Hughes, Scott Meier, Steve Wetzel, Barry Ginder, Bob Zimmerman and Ralph Hocker.

Harrisburg-based artist Elayn Leopold's "Homeless Project" was begun in 2007, the year she re-located to Palmetto, Florida, from Harrisburg. Volunteering at a local soup kitchen she had the opportunity to meet some of the city's disadvantaged, and was fascinated by the variety of people being served: men, women, children of all ages, ethnic groups and cultures, each with a strong presence and a hint of the secrets that lay beneath the surface.

With her subjects' permission, the artist began taking snapshots in outdoor settings, which were later used as references for individual oil paintings. "The Homeless Project" consists of one hundred portraits that show the pain, as well as the hope of people caught in difficult times. Ms. Leopold lists as the primary goal of the project a "heightened feeling of unity and compassion." A portion of the $800 selling price of each portrait will be used to support The Coalition of the Homeless, as well as to ensure that the project is seen by people in various locations.

Art Association of Harrisburg - 717-236-1432; www.artassocofhbg.com.

The Seven Lively Artists exhibit at the Art Association of Harrisburg

PIMP FABULOUS

Johnny and Team Pimp release two "Best of" CDs

By George Shapiro

There are a gaggle of reasons Gay Pimpin' with Jonny McGovern is the #1 gay podcast show on the web. Some credit the wacky segments like "Celebrity Donkey Punch" where Johnny and crew mock the rich and fabulous; others like the recurring characters of sassy Chocolate Puddin' and trashy Dr. Diva. Still others can't get enough of the dirty music they play.

But it's the raucously hilarious gang – comprised of Linda James, Straighty Martin, Sophia Lamar, Miss Erickatoure Aviance, Mutha Krunk, Sparkle Magick, Adam Joseph, Maxine "Dr Diva" Inniss, and the man himself, Jonny "The Gay Pimp" McGovern – that fans say is the main reason they tune in each week.

The show gays it forward into its sixth fun-filled season and to celebrate, they are releasing two "Best of Gay Pimpin' with Jonny McGovern" comedy albums.

Q - What gave you the idea to start the GAY PIMPIN' WITH JONNY MCGOVERN podcast show?

A - I was approached by a fan that wanted to produce a podcast for me. At the time, I didn't have a clue what a podcast was. But when it was explained to me, I realized right away it would be perfect for me. On a podcast, you can be as dirty and faggity as you want to be. There are no restrictions or rules. You know I don't like no rules.

Q - It also makes sense because the internet was where people first discovered "The Gay Pimp" and your videos.

A - Exactly, I have a long history with the web. So why not do an internet radio show? It was also a great way for fans to get to know me beyond my video persona; hear my take on things and get to know all my crazy NYC homo homies.

Q - How did you assemble your cast of characters?

A - I knew I needed different personalities to bounce off on. My tranny co-hostess Ms. Linda James was the first person I asked to join the show. We had been writing songs together for my new record and we had so much fun in the studio, reading tabloids and making jokes. I thought if we could have the same rapport on the show, it would be glam magic! Straighty Martin was next.

Q - How straight is straight-y Martin?

A - Very straight! At least in terms of sexuality. He has a wife and a baby. A real one! You have to be very secure in your sexuality to be the one straighty in our super faggity universe.

Q - Perez Hilton was the gossip contributor in first season. Why did he leave the show?

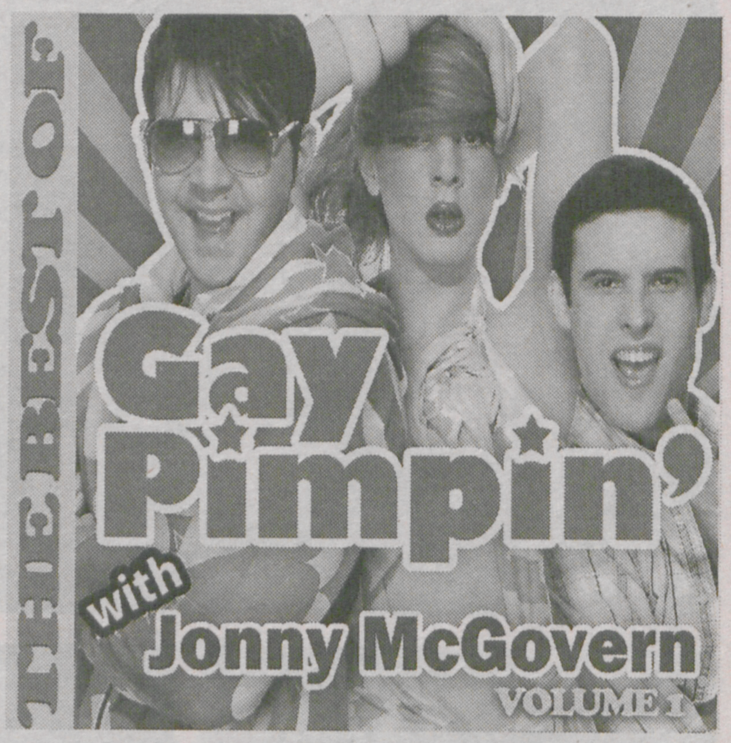
A - Perez's blog became huge and shows like Access Hollywood and Extra! started offering him big cash to give them what he was giving us for free. I don't blame him at all. He's still a fan of the show. Only now he listens to it lying on a big pile of money.

Q - Of all your shows, what is your favorite?

A - I have so many favorite shows, but my top shows would be our Golden Girls tribute show, The instructional "How to F*** a Straight Guy" show, and the Halloween show where "Chocolate Puddin" conjures the spirit of Venus Xtrvaganza.

Q - Speaking of Venus Xtrvaganza, can you explain the show's affinity for the movie, PARIS IS BURNING?

A - We are obsessed with Paris is Burning, a film about the New York drag balls of the late eighties. The dialogue is priceless. The dancing is amazing and the legends in it: Willie Ninja, Dorian Corey, Otavia Saint Laurent, and Venus Xtrvaganza, are over the top. When we started the show, the film had just come out on DVD and we were watching it all the time, so it seeped in to our lingo. 'You're just an overgrown orangutan'. Fierce!



Q - The show certainly loves its drag queens. Who is fiercer, Kevin Aviance or Rupaul?

A - I have been a big fan of RuPaul since I was a baby Gay Pimp and I was very happy to get him on the show. However, Kevin Aviance is not only my favorite pop star of all time, his live shows are legendary. Our obsession with Kevin is right up there with our love for Paris is Burning. Sometimes we all pretend to be Kevin when he's not on the show. A chorus of fake Kevin Aviances. He thinks we're all certifiable and yeah, he's probably right.

Q - You're entering your sixth season. Are more people catching on to the Gay Pimpin' craze?

A - Yes, more and more people are discovering the show all the time. We are now the #1 gay podcast show on i-Tunes!

Q - Who is your audience?

A - Homos of every age and type, but definitely heavy on the younger gays. We've also seen a rise in lezbos, ladies, supernerds and even some straight guys who write to tell me they love the comedy!

Q - What fun surprises do you have in store for season six?

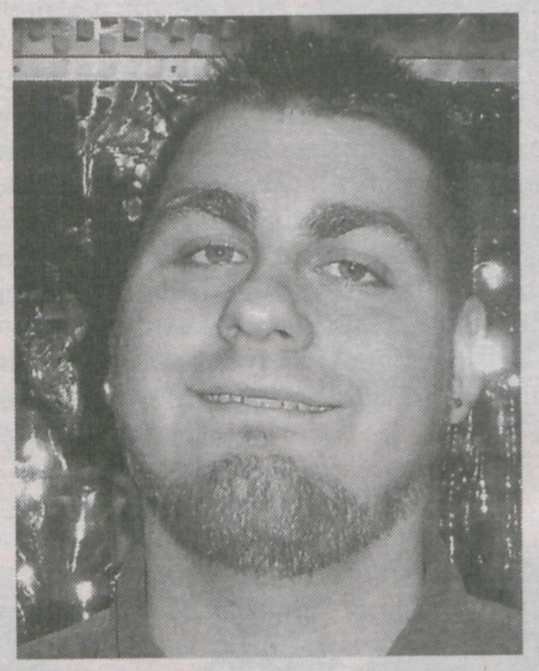
A - We are going to start filming segments of the show, so that will add a new visual element of fun. It's gonna be bigger, gayer and now in full technicolor!

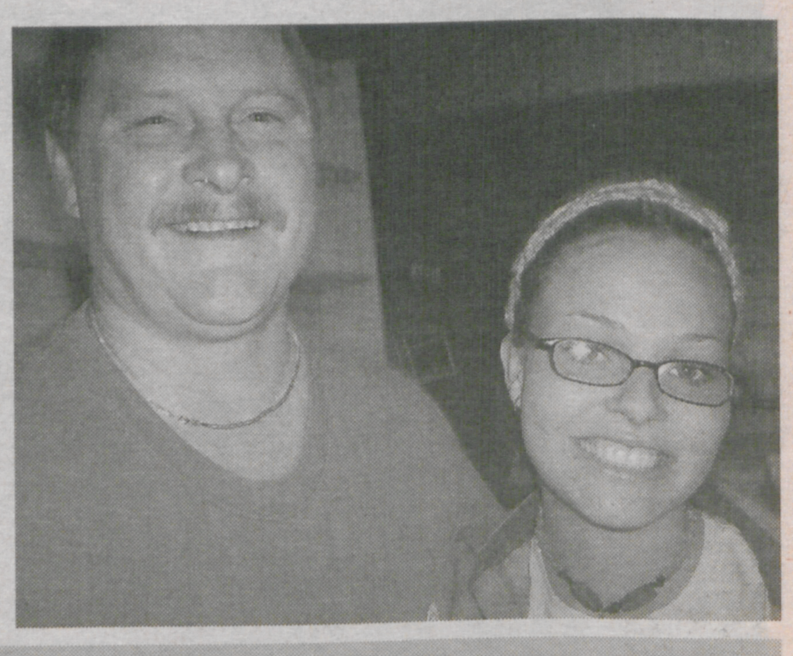
Q - Why did you decide to release two "Best of" cds?

A - I couldn't fit all the great skits into one. And hell, we'll make more money with two! We queens gotta get paid.

To listen to GAY PIMPIN' WITH JONNY MCGOVERN and purchase the new comedy CDs, visit GayPimp.com.

Excitement Video "Alternative Night" Huge Success





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- **TUESDAY, MAY 26** - TRIVIA NIGHT with Double the Prizes. Hosted by Phil, 9 pm
- **WEDNESDAY, MAY 27** - SO YOU THINK YOU CAN SING KARAOKE CONTEST with prizes, 10 pm

Special Events

- **THURSDAY, MAY 28** - ANNIVERSARY POOL TOURNAMENT, 7:30 pm
- **FRIDAY, MAY 29** -THE HOT BODIES OF EAST COAST HUNKS MALE REVUE, 11 pm
- **SATURDAY, MAY 30** - FOAM Dance Party, 10 pm
- **SUNDAY, MAY 31** - DOUBLE ELIMINATION DART TOURNAMENT 7:30 pm

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